

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

1927



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Instituted 1816

NEW YORK

1927

LEGACIES

The following suggestions in regard to the drafting of Wills are made for the information of those who desire to leave bequests to the Society, and thus to perpetuate the work when their own personal efforts are ended:

FORM OF A BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the sum of

Legacies may also be left to the Society in trust, the income only to be used.

In case it is desired to give real estate, the above form can be made to read:

I give and devise to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the following property, to wit:

The Society is incorporated by a special act of the Legislature of New York, passed March 25, 1841, and has by subsequent legislation received further powers. In 1888 it was authorized to take, receive, and hold any personal or real property by gift or grant, bequest or devise; and gifts and grants, bequests and devises, of personal or real property may be made directly to the Society, or to it in trust for any of the purposes comprehended in the general objects of the Society, and such trusts may continue for such time as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose for which they may be created. It is, however, provided that every such bequest or devise by residents of the State of New York shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of April 13, 1860, whereby it is enacted that

“No person having a husband, wife, child, or parent, shall, by his or her last will and testament, devise or bequeath to any benevolent, charitable, literary, scientific, religious, or missionary society, association, or corporation, in trust or otherwise, more than one half part of his or her estate, after the payment of his or her debts (and such devise or bequest shall be valid to the extent of one half, and no more).”

The Society, by the general and special powers given to it by the Legislature of New York, can, in the absence of local statutory restrictions, take and hold real estate in other States by gift or devise.

Central BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



KANSAS CITY, KANSAS

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

1927



TOGETHER WITH

A LIST OF AUXILIARY AND COOPERATING SOCIETIES
THEIR OFFICERS, AND AN APPENDIX

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

INSTITUTED 1816

NEW YORK

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1920

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1921

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1924

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1927

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ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING

THE one hundred and eleventh Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society was convened at the Bible House, Astor Place, New York City, New York, on Thursday, May 12, 1927, at 11 o'clock a.m.

President E. Francis Hyde was in the chair, and among those present were: Mrs. Finley J. Shepard, E. E. Olcott, Dr. Talcott Williams, Joseph F. Taylor, Herbert S. Baker, Rev. Frederick W. Jackson, General Secretaries Haven and Ryan, Treasurer Darlington, Associate Secretary North, and Recording Secretary Chamberlain.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Rev. Frederick W. Jackson, who read from the fifth chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew, after which he offered prayer.

The one hundred and eleventh Annual Report of the Board of Managers for the year ending December 31, 1926, was read by title by General Secretary Ryan.

On motion of the Rev. Frederick W. Jackson, it was

Resolved, That the report which has just been read be printed and circulated under the direction of the Board of Managers.

The Recording Secretary reported that the members of the Board of Managers who this year completed the term for which they were elected, were: George D. Beattys, Arlando Marine, Franklin S. Edmonds, William H. Klenke, James R. Joy, LL.D., Charles F. Darlington, Silas F. Hallock, M.D., Mrs. William Borden, and Arthur L. Brown.

In view of the vacancies reported in the Board of Managers, a committee consisting of Mr. Joseph F. Taylor, Mr. Herbert S. Baker, and the Rev. Dr. Eric M. North, was appointed by the President to nominate suitable persons to fill the vacancies.

The annual statement of the Treasurer was presented by Treasurer Darlington.

On motion of Mrs. Finley J. Shepard, it was

Resolved, That the financial report just read be accepted and printed in the ANNUAL REPORT.

The Rev. Frederick W. Jackson spoke in especial appreciation of the fine and businesslike report on the business transactions of the Society submitted by its officers.

On motion of Mr. Herbert S. Baker, it was

Resolved, That when the Society adjourns, it do so to meet on the second Thursday in May, 1928.

On behalf of the committee appointed to nominate individuals to fill the places of the Managers whose terms of office had expired,

Mr. Joseph F. Taylor placed in nomination George D. Beattys, Arlando Marine, Franklin S. Edmonds, William H. Klenke, James R. Joy, LL.D., Charles F. Darlington, Silas F. Hallock, M.D., Mrs. William Borden, and Arthur L. Brown.

On motion, it was

Resolved, To accept the report of the Committee on Nominations, and to proceed to an election, by ballot, of members of the Board of Managers.

The President declared, as a result of the ballot, that the above nominees had been elected as Members of the Board for the term 1927-1931.

On motion of Mr. Joseph F. Taylor, it was

Resolved, That the filling of any other vacancies in the Board of Managers be referred to the Board with power.

On motion of the Rev. Frederick W. Jackson, it was

Resolved, That the Board of Managers as now constituted be directed to meet at the Bible House on the first Thursday in June for the purpose of organizing for the coming year, and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented.

It was resolved to nominate to the Board of Managers Mr. E. E. Olcott for election as a Vice-President.

General Secretary Haven presented the Mandarin Pulpit Bible just received from China—the first Chinese Pulpit Bible and the joint product of the American, British, and Scotch Bible Societies.

The attention of the meeting was called to recent leaflets and other literature published by the Bible Society.

The meeting was adjourned.

At 12:30 o'clock, on invitations previously sent in the name of the Bible Society, a company of approximately seventy officers and members of the Society and of officers of kindred societies with headquarters in New York, cooperating in home and foreign mission work, gathered at a luncheon at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, Fifth Avenue and 9th Street, to meet and greet the Rev. Eric M. North, Ph.D., the new Associate Secretary, and Mrs. North. The divine blessing was invoked by the Rev. Ezra S. Tipple, D.D. After the luncheon, President Hyde made some characteristically felicitous remarks, reminiscent of the past, his association in Sunday-school work with the grandfather of Dr. North, Mr. Charles Carter North, a New York merchant. He also paid tribute to the business ability of ministers as illustrated by those who had served the American Bible Society as executive officers, and ended by happily welcoming Dr. North to his new duties. The Rev. Minot C. Morgan, D.D., led in a closing prayer for both the new officer and the old Society, as they looked to the future.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY REPORT, 1927

ALL Societies and Institutions receiving this Annual Report are respectfully requested to acknowledge the same by forwarding to the Secretaries of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York, a copy of their reports or similar publications.

In consonance with the purpose and practice of these notes, events of special importance to the Society, which have occurred between the end of the year under review and the going to press of this REPORT, are here mentioned briefly.



The event most seriously affecting particularly the administrative work of the Society was the sudden death, on June 22, 1927, of the Rev. Arthur Clayton Ryan, D.D., General Secretary. Born at Grandview, Iowa, in 1879, he grew up to sturdy manhood largely on a farm. Having his thoughts turned to the Christian ministry, he entered a preparatory school, graduated from Grinnell College in 1909 and Oberlin Theological Seminary in 1911, receiving special recognition for scholarly attainments. Accepting appointment as a missionary of the Congregational Church, he immediately joined its mission in Turkey with his wife, Edith Hoover Ryan, whom he had married in 1907. During the following nine years he had varied service and did valued work, especially during the World War, both on the field and while on furlough, in relieving distress, a part of the time being connected with the American Red Cross. In October, 1920, he became Secretary of the Levant Agency of the American Bible Society. While the war curtailed his field of operations in Asia Minor, he visited nearly every country in Europe on behalf of the Society, rendering reports of conditions, particularly with reference to Bible Societies and Bible distribution, that were very helpful at the Bible House. While on furlough in 1924, he joined the staff at the Bible House temporarily to assist in an emergency. There his presence and manners, his equipment, service, judgment and spirit led the Board of Managers to elect him as General Secretary with especial responsibilities in the Ways and Means Department. He devoted himself whole-heartedly to the ceaseless task of keeping the churches, and those who love the Bible, informed as to the needs and development of the work. He loyally carried forward the plans and campaigns of his predecessor, gradually devising new and other means to increase the income when it did not measure up to the expected or needed amount. During the two years he was in charge of this department, there was a happy and healthy growth all along the line. It is no small matter to raise an annual budget of one mil-

lion and a quarter dollars. He was not afraid to spend or be spent, giving himself to extensive journeys to reach particularly the leaders of the great denominations which cooperate with the Society, at whose gatherings he was always a welcome and effective speaker. In his duties at the Bible House, Dr. Ryan was prompt and painstaking. Having the happy faculty of seeing the point of view of others, and being always cheerful, and undismayed by disappointments, he endeared himself to his colleagues and fellow workers. He will be greatly missed.



In the fore part of 1927, the Board created the position of Associate Secretary to help care for the enlarging work of the Society in its administrative problems at home and abroad. To this office, the Rev. Eric McCoy North, Ph.D., was elected and on May 1, 1927, entered on his duties. Dr. North was born in 1888 at Middletown, Connecticut, and is the son of the Rev. Dr. Frank Mason North, who for many years was the corresponding secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He graduated with high honors from Wesleyan University in 1909 and took post-graduate studies at Union Theological Seminary and at Columbia University, receiving from Columbia his doctor's degree. With experience as a teacher, as editorial worker and as an administrator in connection with various organizations, particularly the Central Office of the Union Chinese Universities, and as author of several books, he comes especially equipped for the important task on which he has entered.



In January, 1927, the Rev. Karl E. Aurell, who had been acting Agency Secretary of the Japan Agency for several years, was made Agency Secretary, and Mr. William S. Strong, who had been transferred the previous year from his position as sub-Agency Secretary in charge of the work at Peking, China, to be acting Agency Secretary of the Arabic Levant Agency, was made Agency Secretary; the Board having taken these actions in recognition of the high quality of service rendered by both.



In February, the Rev. Robert H. Milligan, D.D., was appointed Agency Secretary of the Upper Andes Agency, he having had previous experience, both on the mission field and in the home pastorate. Dr. Milligan has proved his ability as a linguist and as an author, as well as one who is especially interested in pioneer work.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS



THE marvel and mystery recorded in the Apostolic statement that "the Word was with God" is the basis of the further marvel and mystery of God with his Word. For, as down through the ages of the past, so all through the recent year, God has been with the volumes of the Holy Scriptures, prospering their preparation, distribution, and fruitage. In and through their pages He has been reaching and uplifting the souls of men. To Him be our tribute for the record that unfolds as this report proceeds.

ISSUES

The Society has issued during 1926 a total of 9,907,361 volumes of Scripture—a new record. For the second year in succession, the total volumes issued have exceeded nine million, the latest record surpassing its predecessor by 692,000. The year parallels its predecessor in the fact that the increase has been in portions. Unlike the previous year, the chief increase during 1926 was in the homeland, where the issues rose above those of the previous year by over 700,000.

The summary shows there were issued in 1926 at home and abroad by the American Bible Society, 359,989 Bibles, 654,043 Testaments, and 8,893,329 portions, making the total already stated, 9,907,361 volumes. They were in 168 languages.

ISSUES OF 111 YEARS

THE TOTAL ISSUES OF THE SOCIETY IN THE ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVEN (111) YEARS OF ITS SERVICE HAVE BEEN ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR MILLION,

TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND SIXTY (184,028,960) VOLUMES.

DISTRIBUTION

Of the 1926 issues 3,730,336 volumes were for missionary distribution in the United States; 6,177,025 volumes were for distribution in foreign lands.

Wherever these Scriptures go they influence human lives. They change society. They affect governments. They have not a little to do with revolutions, for they create new ideals of human values and the divine love and care.

THE HOMELAND

In the homeland several score of Auxiliary Bible Societies and ten Home Agencies supervised the sending out of these Scriptures in cooperation with churches, missions, prisons, hospitals, schools, evangelistic campaigns, night missions, drawing-room gatherings, bread lines, and the almost innumerable forms of Christian service in which the spirit of loyalty to Christ manifests itself among his followers.

The Scriptures were circulated in the United States in 108 languages and dialects.

Sometimes people come to the Bible House, which covers an entire block in the city of New York, as one did to our Agency among the Colored People, asking for as many as one hundred or more Bibles, as he had been told that we had this building full of them to give out for the asking.

Some county fairs prove great places for Bible booths where tens of thousands of people are interested. Thousands of individuals love to carry volumes of Scriptures in their pockets and give them away to those whom they meet in the course of their business. Wealthy building contractors, heads of industrial shops and other similar workers quietly and unostentatiously sow this good seed. A group of girls for the past three years have been paying for the distribution, free, of three to five thousand Gospels

a year through one of our workers, and are very happy in this voluntary service. A minister giving up his pastorate entered into this work of going from door to door with the Scriptures, and he says, "I have had a wider and a clearer vision, from various angles, of the desire of people to become acquainted with the Word of Life, than it was possible for me in my active ministry." "In the anthracite coal regions," he writes, "I feel that the awakening, the hunger and thirst felt among people from countries in which the Bible is not distributed, read nor studied as it should be, is a splendid omen of the future, and augurs well as to the general desire of people to become familiar with the contents of this precious book. There are groups of men and women in towns and villages in these valleys who are congregating in their homes to read the Bible and are forming missions and hiring halls and building churches, of which there are many established in the past six or eight years."

One man, who secured a Bible a year ago, was so interested in missionary work among his fellow-workmen, that he removed a wall in his house and made a church of it for Sunday school and for a Sunday morning service.

The placing of penny portions sometimes seems a slight task. In one region a colporteur was unable to interest a group of laboring men seated on a pile of lumber, eating their lunch. One in the company replied, "No; that book is not intended for white people." Before leaving, the colporteur handed him a penny portion. The man accepted it, placing it in his pocket. Several months afterward our colporteur was canvassing in another region, and a man came up to him and said, "Have you any Bibles?" Our colporteur immediately opened up his case of Scriptures. The man looked at a gilt edge, divinity circuit Bible and said, "How much is that one?" "Two dollars and one-half," was the reply. He bought it, and then said to the colporteur, "You don't remember me,

do you? I'm the man, the carpenter you gave the little book to out at Gardenville, and I want to pay you for it now,—so here is the cent. We have been reading that book, and since we began we have joined the church and our children go regularly to Sunday school."

The Rev. J. M. Bader, of St. Louis, conceived the idea of getting all the people of the Christian Church to read a chapter a day. This created a circulation of over 100,000 of our one-cent edition of the Acts of the Apostles. A very considerable number of other churches report renewed religious activity on the part of their people, as a result of this interest in the daily reading of a chapter of the Bible.

We little know the conditions in our own land. One home mission worker writes: "By reading the Gospel of John I was converted, and after my conversion I fully made up my mind to go into the ministry. On account of poor health I was denied the privilege of the foreign field; so for the first four years of my ministry I chose mountain work. I wanted to get at least a taste of sacrifice and to take my turn in the hard places. There is no greater hardship than work in the real back country. It is a strain that tells on the system and even shortens lives. My field covered sixty-five miles on roads with mud at times up to the hubs of the rickety old buggy in which I traveled. After much work and prayer the church was completed, and then the lovely Bibles for it were sent by the Bible Society. It was a day of rejoicing for all. There are adult people coming to this church who never set foot inside of a church building before."

Some of the Agencies have what they call the "wayside pulpit." A box is installed, with the consent of the authorities, in public places where people wait with nothing to occupy their time,—such as waiting rooms of railway stations, courthouses, hotel lobbies,—in which Gospels and other portions are

placed. In one town the worker writes that they have wayside pulpits stationed in a bus station, a barber shop, two dental offices, the hotel, the courthouse, and the jail. One such pulpit holds the portions in Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish, Syrian, Welsh, and Yiddish.

Many of the workers of the Society are polyglot, speaking various Central European languages. One such, who is Bohemian by birth, has distributed Scriptures to the following nationalities: Armenians, Bohemians, Chinese, Croatians, English, Germans, Italians, Japanese, Jews, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Ruthenians, Serbians, Slovenians, Spanish, and Hungarians. He speaks a half dozen of the Central European languages, and he says that among these foreigners he has not heard a word of disloyalty to the government. He visited 11,916 families, finding, and for the most part supplying, 2,282 Bibleless homes. He sold 2,200 volumes of Scriptures in fourteen languages, and donated 3,522 volumes. He estimates that he traveled about 4,000 miles.

There is nothing that takes the place of colporteurs. But the cost of living has made the support of an adequate army of colporteurs an impossibility. Methods have, therefore, had to be devised to supplement the colporteurs that can be employed. There are, under the supervision of ten Home Agency Secretaries, 74 colporteurs giving a part or all of their time to Scripture distribution in house-to-house visitation. Only in this way can certain outlying regions be explored and reached. Supplementing these workers is a large body of "correspondents," who give more or less time to the missionary circulation of the Scriptures in their region and receive various kinds of recompense for the same—by commissions, small grants, etc.

Then, in addition, there is being built up a host of voluntary workers, Christian men and women who

are awakening to their duty and their privilege of passing the Word of Life on to others. Whole churches have been stirred to such programs. Open-air services have been conducted in great centers of population. In Chicago, sixty-one pastors and religious workers hold regular and weekly services in the open air. Each one of these workers made Scripture distribution a prominent feature of the work. One pastor writes: "I had always been a little timid about holding open-air meetings. Did not know just how to go about it. I missed the music and settings which I have always used inside the church building. But I found an open and easy access to people through the distribution of the penny Gospels. They were eye openers and ear openers as well as heart openers. Thank you for the supply you sent us." One lady said, "The little Gospels made it easy to get started, and they always helped to wind up the meeting."

The use of advertising methods has had its reward. This is the day of mass production and of mass consumption in all lines of life. The newspapers have acquired an importance never before even approximated. In one great city there are 143 papers published regularly in foreign languages. The Agency Secretary selected sixty-five of the principal ones and each of their offices was visited. Twenty-three graciously welcomed the material sent, and this has helped to create a demand for the Scriptures in these languages, and a knowledge of where they could be procured. This could not have been accomplished in any other way.

There is no longer any homogeneous portion of the United States. Every region is filled with people from every other region. Southerners move north, Westerners move south, Easterners move west, and too many, in their migrations, forget to take their Bibles with them. We think of Texas as a vast field where we should expect English and Spanish to be

the only languages needed, and yet in that state the Bible is distributed in forty-one different languages.

Most of our workers work in the daytime. One that we know of has put on a midnight campaign. He says: "There are thousands of jazz-mad night revelers who roam the streets of New Orleans by night. The church cannot reach these people, and, if they are ever saved, we will have to go to them; they will never come to us. I decided to try to reach some of these people by giving out Scriptures at night between the hours of 9 p. m. and 3 a. m. I found the results most gratifying. Between these hours we have distributed 5,458 volumes of Scripture." If there are all-night banks in New York and other cities, and midnight missions in Chicago, why should there not be midnight Bible distribution in these moving crowds?

A lumber baron in the Southwestern Agency so esteems the Book of Books, that this Christmas he distributed two thousand copies to employees of the mills and camps of his lumber interests in Texas and Louisiana. Each book was an expensively bound Bible, bearing a facsimile of his signature and this inscription: "The general diffusion of the Bible is the most effectual way to civilize and humanize mankind.

* * * I speak as a man of the world to men of the world when I say the Bible is the Book of Books and needs to be read by all ages and in all conditions of human life. I gladly subscribe my sincere faith in, and love for, the Holy Bible and would commend it to the earnest perusal and affectionate regard of all my friends."

The effect of the "Chapter a Day Campaign" created an advance in circulation of 263 per cent over the highest total ever ordered before in a single year, in a mountain area stretching all the way from the Canadian border to Mexico, where there are many lonesome spaces. It is not easy to realize how hungry the isolated settlers get for contact with the world

and its many interests. In some of these homes the nearest neighbor is thirty to fifty miles away. The visit of a Bible missionary is an inestimable event.

Broadcasting the Bible has been taken up by the American Bible Society and continued during the year daily in San Francisco and New York City, and occasionally in Chicago and other sections of the country. Many letters of appreciation are received. So, from shore to shore and from the borders on the north to the borders on the south, the seed has been sown in this broad land.

LATIN AMERICA

All the states and nations of Latin America are a ripe harvest field for the work of the American Bible Society. From the West Indies and the Rio Grande on the north to the Straits of Magellan on the south, the door is open for the ministry of the Word. What is needed is more books and more workers, and that means more money.

The languages used are principally Spanish and Portuguese; but the migrations from other parts of the world call for Scriptures in forty-eight additional languages. Japanese are moving in from across the Pacific; Mennonites are coming from Canada and Russia; Germans are strengthening already considerable colonies; Italians make up large areas of the population in the Argentine; English-speaking colonies are numerous and increasing. There have been 516,970 volumes of Scripture sent out for distribution in all these lands. Considering the illiteracy of the population of large areas, the difficulties of travel in the vast regions of the Andes and the Amazon, the antagonism of certain ecclesiastical forces, and the limited appropriations which it was possible for the Society to make, the returns are encouraging.

It is interesting to note that approving words come from time to time from certain of the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church. At our bookrooms in

Buenos Aires an intelligent priest said to our Secretary: "I realize that my church has made a very serious mistake in keeping the Bible away from our people. I admire your Society for the work it is doing. May God bless you in your work, and may the day soon come when you shall be able to place the Bible in every home in our land."

The Indian populations of these great regions are more and more interesting the Christian churches on the field. They respond to the sympathy and human interest of those who really care for their souls. Many of them are mere beasts of burden. "Women transport on their backs, along the city streets, 200-pound sacks of grain or other merchandise. Girls not more than fifteen bend their backs and shoulders and trudge along under the weight of steamer trunks, acting as porters." One writes: "I saw a woman carrying five beefheads on her back and a babe in her arms, passing through the plaza in front of the magnificent cathedral at Quito." Such sights as these stirred the soul of the late Rev. W. F. Jordan, Secretary of the Society, for the Upper Andes Agency, whose books on Central and South Americas are his legacy to awaken the heart of Christians in North America to the needs of these needy ones in South America.

The West Indies, including Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands, show steady progress. A prominent Cuban educator writes: "I believe that a spiritual movement is starting in the whole Americas, because their conscience seems to be restless. The reading and knowledge of the Holy Scriptures may be a very appropriate means of guiding this movement." A Bible woman in Haiti says: "The continual demand for Bibles in Haiti is a beautiful sign. I believe that now more than ever the people are becoming more interested in the spiritual truths." The Secretary writes that during the last three years the average number of readers of the Bible in the West Indies has increased 25 per cent and among the intellectual

classes 63 per cent, and the number of students and workmen who read the Bible is increasing every year.

The Society has been deprived, to its very great regret, of the services in Mexico of its most esteemed Secretary, the Rev. Arthur H. Mellen, who has, for domestic and other reasons, felt obliged to resign and reenter the parochial work of his church in the United States. He has rendered invaluable service and is deeply beloved by all classes of people in Mexico. His able lieutenant, Sr. Marroquin, a Mexican Protestant Christian of the third generation, is carrying on the work. There is much bitterness on the part of some of the people. One of the colporteurs told of selling a Gospel to a young girl who tried to tear it as soon as she had it in her hands; and, when she found the paper was too strong for that, she began to tear it with her teeth. When the bits were all blown away by the wind, she demanded a Bible and intimated that she would be only too glad to give to it, and to the colporteur himself, the same sort of treatment. And yet, there has been opened an agency of the Roman Catholic Church which has put out a Bible in Spanish at a price so low that ordinary people will be able to buy it; and the Secretary writes there have been so many cases of people being converted by reading the Roman Catholic editions of the Bible, that the Agency is glad to have the colporteurs tell where this book can be obtained. Of course, the price is very much higher than our cheapest editions.

In the Central American and neighboring republics "the common people are really emerging from physical, political, educational, and religious bondage." Just what it means to work out among these people is described in these lines: "Last March I left Cumanacoa near the Atlantic coast, with a mule loaded with two boxes of Bibles and my personal luggage. To cross a hundred miles over rugged mountains and through open and desolate savannahs where the sun burns almost like fire, and water and food is

scarce, is a very serious undertaking." This was a colporteur in Venezuela visiting camps where a thousand men are said to be employed securing a pitch that is reported used in the construction of the subways in New York. At the Bible House in Cristobal, which is the center of this missionary work in Central America, Venezuela, etc., 111 missionary families and 36 missionary children were entertained from a day to a week or more as they were going to, or returning from, their fields.

In Peru the entire country is open to the gospel. "What would the late Francis Penzotti say if he knew that, during the year 1926, 1,932 Bibles, 3,314 New Testaments and 21,162 Scripture portions were circulated where, not many years ago, he suffered nine months in prison in Callao for the crime of circulating the Scriptures?" The Rev. G. P. Simmonds has been in spirit a worthy successor of Francis Penzotti.

Brazil reports a story of fifty years since the establishment of the Agency, forty years of which have been under the supervision of the Rev. H. C. Tucker, D.D., who was a colporteur of the American Bible Society in the eastern section of the state of Tennessee when the Emperor of Brazil visited the United States, little thinking that he was going to spend the greater part of his life in the Emperor's country, and that the Emperor was to be sent back to Europe while he stayed on. When he first went down there, when a man bought a Bible he would hide it, as it was considered a sealed and forbidden book to the people. At the beginning of the period, Brazil had a population of about 12,000,000, and the Agencies of the American and of the British and Foreign Bible Society distributed annually among the Brazilians about 20,000 copies, or a copy to one in every 600 of the population. At the close of the period the Societies are distributing 250,000 copies annually, or a copy to one in every 140 of the population. The

population has increased two and one-half times in fifty years, while the circulation of the Scriptures has increased twelve and one-half times for the same period. But, if not a single copy had been lost or worn out, and there was only one in a household, there would still be 1,500,000 families without any portion of the Bible. Knowing the "average life of a Bible," the fact that many have been burned or otherwise destroyed, and that Bibles, like other books, wear out, in spite of this circulation there are in existence in Brazil only 300,000 or 400,000 copies of the Bible, and maybe double that number of New Testaments. This shows how much has been done, and how much remains to be done.

Dr. Tucker again asks for a Bible House for Rio as a jubilee gift.

THE NEAR EAST

Under the auspices of the Levant and the Arabic-Levant Agencies 176,072 volumes of Scripture were distributed in the Near East. The closed central plateaus of Turkey were not wholly isolated, for the Turkish newspapers carried advertising which made it possible that those who wished to secure Bibles could do so by mail in any town or city of Turkey. Actual sales through this channel are not large, but the Society is reaching individuals all over Asia Minor who could be reached in no other way. The bookseller in the city of Smyrna has kept Bibles on display, though these were almost exclusively Hebrew Scriptures for the use of Jewish school children. The Mohammedan bookseller in the city of Adana is asking to be appointed agent for that district. Through a friend on the staff of the Mohammedan theological faculty of the University of Stamboul, the Bible Society Secretary was given an opportunity of forwarding Bibles in useful languages for the students' reference library. Not only was the gift welcome, but the suggestion was made that the members

of the teaching staff would be glad to possess a copy of the Turkish Bible. This is the only Mohammedan school of higher religious instruction in Turkey.

The refugees from Turkey and the southern Republic of Armenia in Syria and France have been assisted where possible. The care of the field has been in charge of Mr. F. Lyman MacCallum during the absence of Dr. Boyd on furlough in the United States.

At Cairo the new Secretary, Mr. William S. Strong, arrived in the latter part of the year, having been transferred from Peking. Mr. Strong had done a remarkable piece of work in North China, but the climate was proving too severe for him. He is taking up with enthusiasm his new duties in a milder climate.

What we used to think of as deserts, crossed only by caravans, are swiftly traversed by automobiles now, so that Mesopotamia and Arabia, as well as the Holy Land and Syria and Egypt, are open to the circulation of the Scriptures.

FAR EAST

In the Philippines, Siam and Laos, China, and Japan 5,249,062 volumes were issued. This is the largest foreign area of distribution for the Society.

The work in the Philippines has been cared for during the year by the Rev. A. K. Spielberger, who has rendered a most important service during the absence of Mr. Cameron on furlough.

In Siam, Mr. Irwin has the purpose to put a portion of the Scriptures in the hands and the homes of all the Tai (Siamese), with the exception of one and possibly two small territories, and also among all the mountain tribes in Siam, French Laos and that part of the Shan States not under the care of the British and Foreign Bible Society. It is not as simple as it seems. Roughly, one-half the Tai and all the tribes are illiterates, and the literate Tai use four distinct scripts, though all the people, hearing any of

the four read, would understand. Travel is very difficult for half the year over a very large part of our Agency. We have few trained men. The distribution of the Scriptures is done mostly by paid colporteurs. It is about the only method open to us.

China and Japan rival each other. The latter celebrates its jubilee, the fiftieth anniversary of the establishing of the Agency in the Island Empire, with an issue of over a million copies, and with great public meetings and addresses from the American Ambassador, the mayor of Tokyo, and leaders in the religious life of the country.

Large sections of Japan are unevangelized. A recent writer has said that there are more unevangelized people in Japan today than when the Christian missionaries entered the country fifty years ago; and from one of these out-of-the-way places a pastor reports: "Very recently another young man commenced to attend church, who acknowledged that the Gospel of Mark as a 'silent missionary' had done good work in his case. He said: 'I received this book from a foreigner when I was about ten years old, and, learning that it was a Christian book, I somehow felt it ought to be preserved. And—it may seem funny for me to say so—because of possessing this book, I had the feeling that I was closer to Christianity than others were in my community.'"

The Secretary, the Rev. Karl E. Aurell, presents the following table of circulation for the fifty years as summarized by decades:

1st decade	.....	333,170	volumes
2d	"	531,855	"
3d	"	984,486	"
4th	"	2,157,428	"
5th	"	2,988,187	"
Total		6,995,126	"

Most of these books are distributed by means of colportage. The kinds of places visited during the year are interesting:

Houses, 445,896; middle and higher schools, 264; higher girls' schools, 102; sewing schools, 77; grammar school teachers, 135; government offices, 57; other public offices, 153; banks, 68; post offices, 67; police quarters, 84; courthouses, 43; silk thread factories, 184; other factories, 96; firms, 63; railway stations, 74; army offices, 5; navy offices, 17; gunboats, 16; houses of ill fame, 10; temples, 6; shrines, 2; Buddhist schools, 2; hospitals, 18; churches, 4; other institutions, 19; a grand total of 447,462.

Among the great masses of China the Scriptures have had their way. The circulation for the year exceeds by 86,916 that of the preceding year, reaching a total of 3,821,393 volumes.

This year was the first of the China Agency's second half century. "It calls for an unusually large number of superlatives to do it justice. The biggest printing orders ever placed have set the presses humming; the biggest leather binding contracts have exhausted the local leather markets; the biggest circulation figures ever totaled have been in spite of much interrupted transportation service; the biggest sales ever made to a single individual have demanded careful attention to fulfill contracts; and, finally as characteristics of the pulpit Bible issued in 1926, the biggest type edition of the Union Version Mandarin Bible and the biggest union publishing enterprise that the Bible Societies have carried through. We have enjoyed the most favorable exchange rate known for a decade. We have carried on the work with the smallest full-time foreign staff with which our Agency has functioned in over thirty years. For the first time we have had a Chinese Field Secretary constantly at promotional work, writing and speaking in many parts of the country. We have had the most interrupted mail service in the northwest, the most widespread civil war in the south and central sections, the most thoroughgoing change in the government since the revolution of 1911. So one might continue in these superlative terms." "The biggest sales to an individual" were to General Chang

Chih-kiang, to whom reference was made a year ago. So there are Chinese generals *and* Chinese generals.

"All this great work is due to the courage, and perseverance, and faith, and hard work of many genuine Chinese Christians. It speaks eloquently of the devotion of some 549 voluntary devoted workers and correspondents, as well as 26 colporteurs, and the paid staff of office men, clerks, packers and accountants, who with the sub-Agency Secretaries have handled this volume of business." The fact that our work is so largely carried on by the Chinese Christians assures its permanence.

A new Bible House is being built on one of the leading streets of Peking as the gift of the Maryland Bible Society.

Throughout the country there has been great opposition. Posters represented the Bible, and Mark's Gospel in particular, as among the shames. Another likened the Scriptures to an auger that killed men by boring its way into their vitals. But this opposition has only increased the zeal of the Christian workers; and innumerable incidents could be given showing how this opposition has created curiosity; curiosity has led to the reading of the Scriptures; and the reading of the Scriptures has led to a joyous triumphant faith in Jesus Christ.

EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AND THE ISLANDS OF THE SEA

The Society has a somewhat extensive circulation of the Scriptures not recorded in the story of its regular Agencies. It sends out books and funds to missionary and other correspondents. The record of this distribution is necessarily more or less incomplete. Certain conditions, however, may be noted which are of interest. There is a growing demand for the Bible in Europe. The confusion of the war is settling, and the people are anxious for the ministry of the Holy Scriptures.

Russia is still a sealed country so far as the send-

ing of Bibles into it is concerned. Only occasionally are Scriptures allowed across the border. The Soviet Government, however, has given permission to certain of its own people to print Bibles on the government presses at Leningrad, and the American Bible Society has given to those Russian groups of Christians a set of plates of the whole Bible, from which an edition of 25,000 copies was printed. It is hoped that other thousands of copies will be printed from these plates, as they are available for any of the Christian communions of Russia.

In Central Europe the Society has had the privilege of once more assisting in the placing of Greek New Testaments and Hebrew Old Testaments in the hands of students in the theological seminaries and similar training institutions in Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Rumania, Yugoslavia, Latvia, Esthonia, and Lithuania.

In France cooperation has continued with the Bible Society of France. The General Secretary had the privilege of meeting the officers of the Bible Society of France and was entertained most hospitably by the ministers of the French Protestant churches, during his visit to Paris in September. This historic society is worthy of its place in the hearts of the heroic body of French Protestants, to which our Protestantism in America is so much indebted.

Fellowship has also continued with other established Bible Societies in Europe. There is a movement toward association among these societies, especially in Germany, which is encouraging.

Grants in aid in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Switzerland and Jugoslavia have helped Christian churches to supply their people and to carry on their evangelistic work.

In Africa the grants are small, and the chief aid of the Society has been given to translation work in cooperation with certain American missions.

In Asia small grants in aid have been made to American missions in South India and Ceylon.

In Micronesia Mortlock Scriptures have been sent to the people of Truk, and Gilbert Island Bibles have been sent to the Gilbert Islands during 1926.

WORKERS

The total of workers reported, while falling below that of last year, still remains over 3,000. The actual figures of 480 colporteurs, 1,841 correspondents, and 862 voluntary workers, make a total of 3,183 who have officially participated in our world service. China, which reported the largest number last year, 1,157, of whom 1,133 were correspondents and voluntary workers, reports for 1926 a total of 575, of whom 549 were correspondents and voluntary workers. The difference of over five hundred in this one Agency more than explains the difference of 399 between the totals of the two years. As a matter of fact, the total of colporteurs—480—reported for 1926 exceeds the number employed the previous year by 104; while the correspondents fall behind by 373, and the voluntary workers by 130. The total workers reported by the Home Agencies for 1926 were 850, by the Foreign Agencies, 2,254, and by foreign correspondents, 79. In addition, of course, there are the 22 Agency Secretaries and the many score of missionaries and secretaries of other societies, ministers, evangelists, and other Christian workers who supervised, or participated in, the great work of distributing the nearly ten millions of volumes issued by the Society during the year.

AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETIES

There remain on our records 97 Auxiliary Bible Societies. During the year a considerable number of auxiliaries were reported as ceasing to function and were, therefore, dropped from our list. Happily this was more a change in our records than in the

interest in the work of the Society and the aid it receives from the regions involved. Most of these defunct auxiliaries were sustained by those whose gifts for the Bible cause now come through their church channels in connection with the developing denominational budget method.

A glance over the present roll brings to mind a very cheering fact. About one-third of the auxiliaries still active have been in cooperation with the American Bible Society for over one hundred years. Another third have been active in this relation for seventy-five years and more, and 87 out of the 97 have been functioning for over half a century. Long life to the veterans!

TRANSLATIONS AND REVISIONS

Progress has been made during the year in arriving at decisions concerning the plates of the Society's new editions of the King James Version. Questions of spelling, capitalization, punctuation, etc., have been thoroughly gone into by experts, and it is anticipated that the conclusions reached will make it possible to begin the making of new plates during the current year.

IN THE UNITED STATES

Of the languages used in the United States other than English, the Society has completed a revision of the Gospel of John in Yiddish. This has been the work of the Rev. J. I. Landsman and has received the cooperation of the other members of the Yiddish committee. The Gospel of Matthew referred to last year was the work of the Rev. Henry Einspruch, which also was reviewed by the other members of the committee, including Mr. Landsman.

Work on the Spanish Version Moderna referred to in the report of a year ago was delayed until late in the autumn, after certain matters connected with the possibility of bringing it out cooperatively were settled.

Certain anticipated preparatory work on further editions in the Indian dialects of North America had to be postponed because of the preoccupation of the translators.

A number of very important questions concerning revisions in European language Scriptures, earnestly urged by considerable groups of people in this country using these languages, have been under consideration by the Committee on Versions. It sometimes seems as if removal to a new country and a new environment affects language and creates a desire for change that is not so manifest in the old countries. Lithuanian, Hungarian, Croatian, and Serbian are among those referred to.

IN LATIN AMERICA

The revised Miskito New Testament, prepared by the Rev. George R. Heath, has been completed and issued by the Society, for use among the Indians of Nicaragua, especially those connected with the Moravian missions.

In the adjacent state of Guatemala, Matthew, Mark, Luke and Acts have been translated into Cakchiquel by the Rev. W. C. Townsend, and they are almost ready for publication. These editions, however, will be tentative editions, subject to further revision as the translator goes forward in his work on the New Testament. Mr. Townsend has found over thirty root words in the Cakchiquel that are either the same or quite similar in the Cakchiquel and the Hebrew. He is working out a card catalogue of the vocabulary with the Spanish and Greek equivalents.

Continued progress has been made in Quiché in Guatemala. Two groups of translators have been at work on this language; Dr. and Mrs. Paul Burgess, of the Presbyterian Mission at Quezaltenango, and the Rev. Amos Bradley of the Primitive Methodist Church.

The Rev. H. D. Peck, of Totonicapan, Guatemala,

a Presbyterian missionary, has undertaken the translation of the Gospels into Mam. Progress has been made in Matthew and Luke, and John will soon follow.

Among the South-American languages, the work on the Version Moderna, to which reference has been made, will be of even more value than among Spanish-speaking people of the United States.

The Portuguese Revision is proving more and more acceptable, and the slight differences between the text edition of the American Bible Society and the reference edition of the British and Foreign Bible Society have been harmonized, so that these editions will be identical.

The Rev. H. C. McKinney, in Bolivia, reports that in Aymara the Gospels of Mark and Luke are completed, and the Gospel of Matthew is almost completed.

In Peruvian Quechua certain experimental work has been going on to discover if the tendency to use Spanish words where Indian words could be used can be corrected, so as to make a translation that is more completely Indian. It is hoped that, if this is practicable, a new translation may be made into Peruvian Quechua to carry forward the work begun many years ago by Madame Clorinda Turner and only partially completed. Mr. José Farfan, a native translator, may have taken his instructions too seriously, for in translating the word "Fariseo" (Pharisee) he used the long phrase "Iscai-soncco-Apucc-sutimpi-camachequeyocc," which shows that it is not always wise to carry out one's instructions too completely. Mr. Farfan, however, states that he read his translation to the Indians and they understood it.

IN AFRICA

Africa has been very much to the fore this year in the great meeting held at Le Zoute, Belgium, September 14-21, 1926, called the Conference on the

Christian Mission in Africa. All phases of evangelical, educational, and humanitarian activities were brought under review at this conference, and no subject was of more interest than the language question. It was practically the unanimous opinion of the conference that work in Africa should be carried forward in the vernaculars. The interesting fact emerged that there are in the neighborhood of eight hundred languages and dialects spoken in Africa, and that in only two hundred and forty-three of these have the whole, or some part, of the Holy Scriptures been translated.

The American Bible Society during the year has completed and issued its Bulu New Testament for the West African Mission of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., the work of the Rev. A. C. Good, Ph.D., through the Book of Acts, and of the Rev. Melvin Fraser, D.D., from the Epistles to the end of the Testament.

Progress has also been made on the revision of the Luba-Lulua Bible by the Rev. T. C. Vinson, of the mission connected with the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., in the Belgian Congo.

Additional manuscript has been received and prepared and proofread by the author, Mrs. H. C. Kramer, in Olunyore, one of the languages used in Kenya Colony, East Africa.

IN THE NEAR EAST

In the Near East it is particularly satisfactory to report that the Armeno-Turkish manuscript of Dr. Andrus, lost for ten years, has been found and returned to the Bible House in New York.

This clears up the mystery, and makes possible the preservation of the work of an eminent and faithful missionary and language student.

Questions connected with the possibility of a revision of the Turkish Scriptures have been under consideration.

The Committee on Versions has also had before it the consideration of the Arabic Colloquials.

The Shilluk Gospel of John was issued during the year. This was reported two years ago as ready for publication in 1925, but certain delays prevented its going to press until this year. Shilluk is spoken in the Sudan.

IN THE FAR EAST

In the Far East, progress has been made in the Philippines. In the revision of the Tagalog New Testament, the four Gospels have been completed. The Rev. Leslie Wolfe and his committee have done excellent work. Mrs. Jean R. Hall has given very faithful service in revising the Samareño Gospels and Acts and translating the remainder of the New Testament. There is a great demand for a Bible in this dialect. The Ilocano New Testament revision was completed during this year; and it is hoped before long that there will be a complete revised edition of the Ilocano Bible. The Bicol New Testament Revision, which has had the care of the Rev. Kenneth P. MacDonald, has been completed and issued.

In Siam, the revision of the Siamese New Testament has been continued through the year by the Rev. P. A. Eakin and his Siamese coadjutors, Pluang Sukikham, Kim Heng Mangara, Charoen Skunkan, and Kru Charoen Wichai. They have finished through Romans, and the first five books have been printed. Near the end of the year the committee began the revision of the Siamese Genesis. Translations from the Siamese into Lao or Tai Yuan were published in their first editions as follows: Ecclesiastes, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Hosea, Zechariah, Joel, Obadiah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah. These are the work of Dr. McKean and the Rev. Mr. Kamai.

In China, the Revised Cantonese Colloquial New Testament was completed and published during the

year. For many years there have been two texts in use throughout the Cantonese language area. A new Union committee of Chinese, Americans and British brought out this thoroughly revised translation, in which it is a cause for great gratification that they have agreed even on one term for God, on which there is not yet agreement in the Mandarin and Wenli texts. This is a joint publication of the American and the British and Foreign Bible Societies. The Chinese leaders remark very favorably on the style.

PUBLICATION

In 1924 it was decided to separate the accounts of the Publication Department and the General Accounts of the Society. From that date a separate checkbook and bank balance has been kept for all items connected with the manufacture and production of Scriptures in the United States as apart from their distribution. The results of this policy have been most successful. It has not been necessary for the Publication Committee to draw upon the general funds of the Society for assistance. Inasmuch as Scriptures are manufactured and catalogued at cost, the committees concerned with distribution have known just how much they were giving away when they reduced the price of Scriptures for donations or for the blind or for missionary purposes. While the ideal of the Publication Committee is neither to make nor to lose any money in its manufacturing program, this does not mean that it is not interested in the benevolent work of other committees. On the contrary, by furnishing accurate figures of actual cost it has enabled the other committees to render a more efficient and intelligent service. From December 31, 1924, to December 31, 1926, the total assets and liabilities of the publication balance sheet have varied by only about \$4,000. That the publication assets have been reduced by only this amount is remarkable

in view of the reduction in prices that has occurred over the two years, and the number of formats and bindings that have been discontinued in favor of more modern or more economical books. In the meanwhile the inventory of Scriptures and manufacturing materials has been consistently reduced, so that a reserve has been accumulated for making new plates for the more important English Bibles. As soon as the Versions Committee has passed on certain questions of spelling and punctuation these new plates will be ordered. As the plates whose place they will take have been in use over forty years, it is the belief of the committee that the newer books will be more in conformity with modern taste and, therefore, increase the Society's distribution.

While the Publication Department speaks of sales and costs in a businesslike way, let it not be thought that the benevolent work of the Society can be overlooked. All the Scriptures that are donated or sold below their real cost are paid for from funds given by individuals, churches, or auxiliary societies. This fact must ever be borne in mind. However, it is only by the strictest methods of business control and supervision that it has been possible to carry on the publication program without either loss or gain. This happy result which has been attained may justify what appears to be the use of strictly businesslike language.

AVERAGE COST OF BOOKS

Averages are dangerous without a full understanding of all the elements that enter into them. A comparison, however, of English Bibles in cloth and leather is quite interesting. In 1922 the average price of 30,000 English Bibles, bound in leather, was \$2.14. In 1926 for a similar quantity the average cost was \$1.84. In cloth the average price of over 200,000 Bibles in 1922 was 57.8c; in 1926 it was 55.9c. These reduc-

tions have been accomplished in spite of an increase in the cost of wages to the highest price on record. A better paper is now being used in a majority of the books, and many refinements in binding have been added. The books included run from a large-sized pulpit Bible to the smallest pocket edition.

The comparative figures for New Testaments and Testaments and Psalms in cloth and leather are complicated by the fact that paper covers have been introduced, in order to sell the Testament at five cents. In many cases the Testament and Psalms has taken the place of the Testament only, as the cost of handling both varieties would have been more than including the Psalms in every book.

With the portions of the Scripture it is interesting to note that the quantity of leather- and cloth-bound portions issued has been reduced about 50 per cent, and the cost of these has increased slightly. On the other hand, only 79,000 paper-covered portions were issued in 1922 as against 2,673,186 in 1926. The average price, furthermore, has dropped from 2.5c to 1.06c. The great bulk, however, has been priced at 1c net. This is an astounding increase in distribution and shows clearly the need that these little books have met in the United States, in Central and South Americas and, to a less extent, throughout the world.

So great has been the demand for cheaper portions in bright paper covers selling for one cent net, that Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Proverbs have been added in Portuguese.

Just before Christmas the eleven one-cent portions that make up the New Testament were issued in a separate green-covered box. Each box contains not only the eleven portions, but also an imitation leather buddy cover which fits each of the books. The whole is priced at 30 cents net. As this New Testament became known it met a very wide demand. For prizes for Sunday schools, and for those wishing something different, it was very much in demand.

During 1926 there were issued 1,312 Concordances over against 1,785 in 1925.

WAYS AND MEANS

A review of the year 1926 increases our gratitude and joy for the privileges God has given us. A multitude of friends have contributed not only of their money but of their service to help the Society carry on its world-wide work. Directly or through their denominational offices, thousands of churches have sent contributions toward the support of the Bible Society. The correspondence of the year has again and again indicated the wide interest of Christian people in the Bible cause and the work which our Society is doing throughout the world. For all this we are deeply grateful.

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS

The total number of individual donors contributing through the office at the Bible House was 21,285. Of these, 6,541 were new contributors during 1926. The total amount of their gifts was \$156,439.38. This was \$6,439.38 more than was estimated in the budget as the probable income from this source for 1926.

CHURCHES

The total income from churches for the year was \$225,791.44. Unfortunately, this was \$39,208.56 less than the budget committee had estimated as the probable income from the churches for 1926. This unfavorable situation is due to the fact that some of the denominations which are among the largest supporters of the Bible Society did not meet the expectations of the budget committee and in some cases fell below their gifts of the previous year. On the other hand, we are glad to report that other denominations exceeded their gifts of the previous year. A list of the denominations giving more than \$500 for either

1925 or 1926, together with the amounts contributed toward the Society's budget, is given below:

	1926	1925
Adventist (Seventh-day)	\$ 2,010	\$ 2,001
Baptist (Northern)	720	646
Brethren	833	852
Congregationalists	5,341	2,522
Disciples	765	796
Lutheran (Augustana Synod)	1,426	1,088
Lutheran (Free Church & Norwegian)	309	2,094
Lutheran (United)	3,592	2,269
Mennonites	592	43
Methodist Episcopal	73,624	77,159
Methodist Episcopal (South)	33,631	31,482
Methodist Episcopal (African)	3,127	2,435
Methodist Episcopal Zion (African) ..	971	1,224
Methodist Protestant	546	970
Moravians	938	1,032
Presbyterian (U. S. A.)	41,909	46,137
Presbyterian (U. S.)	19,297	19,449
Presbyterian (Covenanter)	1,846	1,445
Presbyterian (United)	9,746	12,618
Reformed (Christian)	2,645	1,835
Reformed (in America)	5,267	4,592
Reformed (in U. S.)	2,681	2,225
United Brethren	1,039	1,078
Netherland Reformed	637	50

The above list of twenty-four denominations contributing in 1926 is just half of the whole number of church groups which contributed toward the Society's work for the year. The total income from all churches was \$85,882.26 less than the amount the Society sent to its twelve Foreign Agencies alone for work in the foreign mission fields of the churches, taking no cognizance of its expenditures for the home mission fields of the churches.

ANNUITIES

During the year 589 annuity bonds were issued for a total of \$521,644.23. In keeping with the policy of the Society all funds received on the annuity basis are carefully invested and held until the death of the annuitant.

PUBLICITY

To the daily papers twenty-three news releases were sent out. Some or all of these were used in forty-four states of the Union. Fifty-two special articles and seventy-eight electrotypes cuts were sent to religious journals for use during the year. For this cooperation on the part of the editors the Society is grateful.

UNIVERSAL BIBLE SUNDAY

For Bible Sunday, on December 5, 1926, the topic "The Voice and the Book" was used and the occasion widely observed. The total number of requests for Bible Sunday literature received at headquarters was 7,618. Fifty-three different denominations were among those asking for literature for this occasion.

As has been the policy for the past three years, the literature for Bible Sunday was mailed to each of the pastors of the denominations cooperating with the American Bible Society. This required 74,820 sets, which were mailed in the latter part of October.

While it is impossible at headquarters to determine how many churches used the Society's literature, it is quite evident, from clippings, reports from the Agency Secretaries and other sources, that Universal Bible Sunday is becoming increasingly a regular feature with a large number of churches, and that the literature prepared by the American Bible Society for this occasion is meeting a real need of the pastors and religious workers. In connection with Bible Sunday, in 1926, a large number of local Bible exhibits were held in various churches throughout the country.

DENOMINATIONAL MEETINGS

One of the executive officers from headquarters, or some other representative, presented the American Bible Society cause at nineteen national or international denominational meetings during the year.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

At the Advisory Council meeting on December 1 eighteen representatives of the leading denominations were present to consult with the Society regarding its budget and program for the following year. The advice of these brethren is most valuable, and their cooperation greatly appreciated.

ADVERTISING

In connection with the various denominational gatherings, national or international, during the year, appropriate advertising was placed in religious journals, setting forth the nature and work of the Society and especially its relationship to the churches. Some advertising was also placed in other periodicals and in church calendars published by the Church Service, Inc. The Ways and Means Department cooperated in general publicity and advertising in preparation for the Bible reading campaign put on by the Commission of Evangelism of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, and especially with the Rev. Jesse M. Bader of the United Christian Missionary Society. One of the important ways by which we bring our needs and opportunities to the attention of our constituency is through paid advertising in religious papers.

LEAFLETS

During 1926 the Ways and Means Department sent out a total of 1,567,806 leaflets. Among these were 32,000 leaflets especially prepared for circularizing the leaders of the Christian Endeavor societies in connection with their prayer meeting topic "How to Use the Bible" on May 16; and also 50,000 leaflets distributed through the General Council of the United Presbyterian Church in connection with their White Gift Campaign in December. In addition to the Bible Sunday leaflets, two new leaflets were added to the stock: "If the Work Should Stop Tomorrow"

and "Facts and Figures." In May and December the World Service Commission of the Methodist Episcopal Church gave the American Bible Society the privilege of using the two inside pages of 200,000 local church bulletins issued by the department for pastors throughout the country. A similar privilege was given by the Stewardship Committee of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. for use of its calendar for two Sundays in September, which is the month devoted to the Bible cause. To all these societies and organizations which have cooperated with us in the distribution of these leaflets, the Bible Society is deeply grateful.

We appreciate the cooperation of all those who love the Bible. The American Bible Society exists to serve, and must look to the churches and individual friends to make it possible for it to meet the increasing demands for the printed Word of God.

FINANCES

Income for 1926

	Estimated	Received
Legal Trusts—Available Investments and Sage Fund Income	\$ 116,000.00	\$ 116,077.15
Legacies	60,000.00	60,000.00
Bible House, Net	40,000.00	40,000.00
Sales	390,000.00	408,253.34
Churches—Excluding Foreign Agencies, but including Blind	265,000.00	225,791.14
Individuals—Excluding Foreign Agencies, but including Blind	150,000.00	156,439.38
Auxiliaries	20,000.00	22,937.97
Annuities	25,000.00	25,000.00
Miscellaneous	2,000.00	3,181.19
Total	\$1,068,000.00	\$1,057,680.17

Expenses for 1926

	Appropriated	Expended
General Administration	\$ 75,988.00	\$ 81,367.95
Treasurer's Office	21,546.00	16,526.99
Ways and Means	68,896.00	59,902.56
General Distribution	74,700.00	75,001.86
Publication Department	390,000.00	401,511.82
Home Agencies	155,670.00	152,170.00
Foreign Agencies	281,200.00	280,568.63
Total	\$1,068,000.00	\$1,067,049.81

During 1926 the income and expenses under the budget appear to be more satisfactory than is really the case. The income received under the budget amounted to \$1,057,680.17. The charges under the budget amounted to \$1,067,049.81—a difference of less than \$10,000 or 1 per cent of the total budget. As compared with the estimated income and expenses, the showing was more favorable than the average of the five preceding years; for the income was only 1 per cent less than the estimated income, and the amount expended was only 1/10 of 1 per cent less than the amount appropriated.

The unsatisfactory element in the budget was the large difference between the actual as compared with the estimated gifts from churches. These gifts amounted to only a little over \$225,000, as against estimated income of \$265,000. In each year from 1921 to 1924 over \$260,000 was received from churches, the highest amount received being over \$281,000 in 1921. As has been mentioned previously in this report, this reduction in gifts from churches has applied to only a few of the denominations, as many others fortunately have increased their contributions over the last few years. For 1927 the Advisory Council, which met the first of December, 1926, has recommended an estimated income from churches of \$235,000. Unless at least this amount is received in the current year, the budget will again be seriously unbalanced.

The reason why the statement of income and expenses under the budget appears to be more satisfactory than is the fact, is that the sales of Scriptures were \$18,000 more than the estimated sales. This money, however, cannot be used for budget purposes, as it must be returned to the Publication Department for replenishing the supply of Scriptures. In fact, \$11,000 of this \$18,000 was so used during the year 1926. Had it not been that the Society had a small cash balance at the beginning of the year and was

able to borrow \$11,000 temporarily, there would have been a cash deficit at that time.

It will be noted that for the three items Legacies, Bible House, and Annuities the estimated income and amount actually received are identical. The reason why this is so is easily explained:

LEGACIES

For over one hundred years the income from legacies has varied in a most exaggerated manner. Seven fat years are not always followed by seven years of famine. The sequence is more irregular and fortuitous. Obviously, no budget could be built on the amount actually received, which is subject to the home calling of the friends of the Society, the law's delay, and many other causes. For the three years 1924, 1925, and 1926, \$60,000 was appropriated by the Budget Committee. Inasmuch as in 1921 only \$48,000, and in 1922 \$56,000, was received, this figure appeared to be a fair estimate of the average income. During 1926, however, the amount received from legacies was so satisfactory that it was decided to increase the appropriation to \$75,000. This \$15,000 increase over the previous three years helped to offset the large reduction in the estimated income from churches in the budget for 1927. The Finance Committee now believes that this figure can be maintained, because for the ten years previous to 1926 the average amount received from legacies was slightly over \$75,000 a year. The one hundred-year average annual amount received from legacies is \$73,540.50. If more than the estimated amount is received in any year, it is placed in the legacy equalization fund. If the amount received is less, this fund is called upon to maintain the budget income.

BIBLE HOUSE

Forty thousand dollars a year is the largest income ever received from the Bible House appropriated to

the general budget of the Society. When the Society gave up its own manufacturing plant, it was necessary to expend over \$160,000 to install four new elevators and to remake considerable parts of the building into offices. It has been the desire of the Finance Committee to refund the amount expended. All income received over \$40,000 each year is applied to this purpose. During 1926 about \$21,000 was so used. If, therefore, present rental values hold, and there is no increase in operating expenses or in vacancies, it should be possible to write off the \$135,988.30 remaining in six or seven years.

ANNUITIES

During the year under review 589 additional annuity agreements were written. The total of these agreements was \$521,644.23. While the Society lost by death more of its annuitants than in any previous year, the average amount of the annuity or annuities held by each of these was the smallest on record. It was, therefore, necessary to call upon the annuity reserve fund for \$22,337.65 to meet the amount appropriated to the budget during the year.

Certain reductions were made in the rate given to annuitants where more than one person appear on the bond. This brings the Society's program more in accord with mortality experience and established tradition. Although the number of annuitants is increasing very rapidly, all payments have been made promptly. Nothing can be more heartening to the officers of the Society than the continued affection and good will of those who have contributed so liberally of their principal for the Bible cause. Every day of the year, including February 29th, is the birthday of one or more of these good friends of our work, except December 22d. If, therefore, any of the friends of the Society were born on this date, we hope they will take out an annuity, so that we may wish some annuitant many happy returns on every

day of the whole year. December 22d is only three days before Christmas. This date should be easy to remember.

If you know anyone who was born on December 22d, please to let us know.

TRUST FUNDS

While the income under the budget was not fully satisfactory, an unusually large amount of trust funds was received. Over the one hundred and ten years of its existence the American Bible Society has received in legacies almost \$8 that are free and clear for every dollar that is restricted by trust agreement or otherwise. In 1926, \$59,553.75 was added to the trust fund account, and no less than \$82,500 to the funds received for special purposes. As the total trust funds of the Society, not including the endowments, at present amount to only slightly over one million dollars, it is evident that this was an unusual addition for one year. Even with this addition, however, it cannot be said that the Society is overendowed. The income from all legal trusts and other funds amounts to only about 10 per cent of the budget necessary for each year's work. True friends of the Society will, therefore, not only contribute freely during their lives, but will also provide generously in their wills for the carrying on of the translation, publication, and distribution of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment. Unless such gifts are received, this Society will not be able to give freely those leaves of the Tree of Life which are for the healing of the nations.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

The circulation of the *Bible Society Record* continues steadily enlarging. From the average of 26,000 reported last year, it has risen to an average of over 29,000 a month, 31,800 in December being the maximum for any one month. A total of 349,700

copies has been issued in the twelve months of 1926. Many commendations of the contents of the *Record*, and evidences of interest aroused by those contents, come encouragingly to the editors.

The year was peculiarly full of rich material. Not only did the January and June numbers—the former giving a preview of the work of the year 1926, and the latter giving a review of the reports for 1925—run to twenty pages; but the July issue, recording historical facts and celebrations connected with the 110th anniversary of the Society, and the December issue, reporting the jubilee of the Japan Agency, both had four pages more than the usual sixteen. In addition, the January and March issues had special pictorial supplements; the former presenting four of the decorative panels in the State Capitol at Harrisburg, Pa., portraying the publishing of the English Bible by William Tyndale, and the latter presenting photographs of three recently acquired oil portraits of Presidents of the American Bible Society, being those of Mr. Wood, Mr. Cutting, and Mr. Hyde.

Several special numbers were issued because of specially important events and material. That for April was particularly devoted to the China Agency; that for May to the Japan Agency; that for July to the one hundred and tenth anniversary of the Society; that for November to the work of the Society in and for Africa; and that for December, as already mentioned, reporting the jubilee of the Japan Agency.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

The 110th *Annual Report*, a volume of 460 pages covering the work of 1925, was published in an edition of 2,500 copies. Of the preliminary summary of this Annual Report, entitled the Report of the Board of Managers, 10,000 copies were printed. Editions of only three of the general leaflets of the Society were called for during the year, totaling 10,000 copies, there being stock of the many other leaflets.

But the supply of nine leaflets used in connection with the Ways and Means Department brought the total of copies of "other publications" issued in 1926 to 1,251,550 copies. As in previous years, the largest issues were in pamphlets and leaflets used in connection with the Bible Sunday program, 612,000 of the leaflet "The Voice and the Book" having been published. Of our popular leaflet "How to Use the Bible," 150,000 were published; of the effective leaflet "The Only Way Out of the Dark," 118,250, and of the leaflet "John 3:16," 109,000.

IN MEMORIAM

The Society lost by death three of its Vice-Presidents: Frank E. Spooner, of Illinois, on December 3, 1925; W. T. Hardy, of Louisiana, on February 26, 1926, and Judge Henry Wade Rogers, LL.D., of Connecticut, on August 16, 1926.

Mr. Mornay Williams, who had rendered faithful and useful services as a Manager for over a decade, died on June 18, 1926.

The Upper Andes Agency and the Society in general met with a serious loss through the death of the Rev. W. F. Jordan on August 7, 1926. He had been Secretary in turn of the West Indies Agency, the Mexico Agency, and the Upper Andes Agency.

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

NEWLY ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT

Mr. J. L. Kraft, of Chicago and New York, was elected a Vice-President in November.

NEWLY ELECTED MANAGERS

Five managers were added during the year: Mrs. Samuel McRoberts in March; Mrs. John Ferguson in April; James M. Stewart in May; Herbert S. Baker in November; and William J. Stitt in December.

NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTERIAL MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES

The Rev. Minot C. Morgan, D.D., copastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York City, became a ministerial member of the Board of Managers in November, and was appointed a member of the Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies.

CHANGES IN THE BOARD

During the course of the year Mrs. Samuel McRoberts, Watson S. Moore, and Jared G. Baldwin found it necessary to resign.

LIFE DIRECTORS AND LIFE MEMBERS

Fourteen Life Directors and 145 Life Members were added during the year.

At its meeting in March, under the constitutional provision giving Life Members a standing in the meetings of the Board of Managers, the Board elected to Life Membership the ministerial members of its committees who were not already Life Members.

Miss Lucy C. Frelinghuysen, daughter of a former President of the American Bible Society, Secretary of State Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, was elected a Life Director on May 6, 1926.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

At the Annual Meeting in May, in recognition of the growing closer relationship and cooperation of the principal denominations in America with the American Bible Society, particularly through the Advisory Council, and under appropriate modification of the Constitution of the Society for the first time allowing the election of clergymen as Vice-Presidents,

the members of the Advisory Council were elected
Honorary Vice-Presidents as follows:

- Rev. W. A. Spicer, Seventh-day Adventists
- Rev. Otto Winger, LL.D., Church of the Brethren
- Rev. Dan Freeman Bradley, D.D., Congregational Churches
- Rev. A. D. Harmon, D.D., Disciples of Christ
- Bishop S. C. Breyfogel, D.D., LL.D., Evangelical Church
- Rev. John Baltzer, D.D., Evangelical Synod of North America
- Rev. G. A. Brandelle, D.D., LL.D., Augustana Synod (Lutheran)
- Rev. J. A. Aasgard, D.D., Norwegian Lutheran Church of America
- Rev. F. H. Knubel, D.D., LL.D., United Lutheran Church
- Bishop Joseph F. Berry, D.D., LL.D., Methodist Episcopal Church
- Bishop Warren Akin Candler, D.D., LL.D., Methodist Episcopal Church, South
- Rev. Thomas Hamilton Lewis, D.D., LL.D., Methodist Protestant Church
- Bishop Henry Blanton Parks, D.D., African Methodist Episcopal Church
- Bishop J. S. Caldwell, D.D., Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
- Bishop R. S. Williams, D.D., Colored Methodist Episcopal Church
- Bishop J. Taylor Hamilton, D.D., Moravian Church in America
- Rev. Charles R. Erdman, D.D., LL.D., Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
- Rev. George Summey, D.D., LL.D., Presbyterian Church in U. S.
- Rev. M. M. Pearce, D.D., Reformed Presbyterian Church of N. A. (Covenanter)
- Rev. W. I. Wishart, D.D., United Presbyterian Church of N. A.
- Bishop John Gardner Murray, D.D., Protestant Episcopal Church
- Rev. Henry Beets, LL.D., Christian Reformed Church in America
- Rev. William Bancroft Hill, D.D., Litt.D., Reformed Church in America
- Rev. J. C. Leonard, D.D., Reformed Church in the United States
- Bishop William M. Bell, D.D., United Brethren in Christ

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

In recognition of special services they had rendered to the Bible cause in various ways, the Board elected as Honorary Life Members the Rev. Erwin H. Richards, D.D., the Rev. George R. Heath, Mr. Frank Battles and the Rev. Charles E. Vermilya, D.D.

CONCLUSION

It is a privilege and an honor to have had any association with the work which this record presents. To translator or distributor, to administrator or contributor, to beneficiary or benefactor, association with God's Word brings recompense. The uniform testimony is that every one is glad to have any share in the dissemination of that message which is for the life of the soul and the healing of the nations.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS



THE Executive Officers submit their customary review of certain factors and facts of the year 1926. Some of these have not been included in the Report of the Board of Managers, and others were only briefly touched therein.

ADVISORY COUNCIL

The eighth meeting of the Advisory Council with the Budget Committee of the American Bible Society was held on December 1, 1926, for the preparation of the budget for the year 1927.

Representing the denominations named, the following were present:

Seventh-day Adventists—Rev. J. L. McElhany.
Society of Friends—Mr. Arlando Marine.
Lutheran (United)—Prof. H. C. Alleman, D.D.
Methodist Episcopal—Bishop Luther B. Wilson, D.D.
Methodist Episcopal Church, South—Bishop Collins Denny, D.D.
Methodist Protestant Church—Rev. Thomas H. Lewis, D.D.
Norwegian Luth. Church of America—Rev. J. A. Aasgaard, D.D.
African Methodist Episcopal Church—Bishop J. A. Johnson, D.D.
Moravian Church—Rev. Paul de Schweinitz, D.D.
Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.—Rev. D. G. Wylie, D.D.
Presbyterian Church in U. S.—Rev. W. L. Lingle, D.D.
Cumberland Presbyterian—Rev. D. W. Fooks.
Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter)—Rev. T. M. Slater.
Protestant Episcopal—Bishop James H. Darlington, D.D.
Christian Reformed—Rev. John Beebe.
Reformed Church in America—Rev. E. J. Blekkink, D.D.
Reformed Church in the U. S.—Rev. T. A. Alspach, D.D.
United Brethren in Christ—Rev. S. C. Enck, D.D.

The following who had planned to be present were prevented by various urgent matters:

Christian Church—Rev. H. M. Hainer.
Congregational Churches—Mr. Franklin H. Warner.
Disciples of Christ—Rev. S. G. Inman, Ph.D.

Evangelical Synod of N. A.—Rev. J. Baltzer, D.D.

African Methodist Episcopal (Zion)—Bishop J. S. Caldwell, D.D.

Colored Methodist Episcopal—Bishop R. S. Williams, D.D.

United Presbyterian Church of N.A.—Rev. J. H. White, D.D.

The Executive Officers presented and explained the items under the expected income and expected expenditures and gave information on the work of the Society during the past year and the plans for the year ahead, answering questions raised by those present. With the approval and support of the Advisory Council, the Budget Committee recommended the appropriations for the year 1927 to the Board of Managers. The Board met on the following day and made its appropriations, which are set forth in some detail on the four pages immediately preceding the Report of the Treasurer, toward the end of this volume.

Before adjourning, the Advisory Council unanimously took the following action:

From all the information coming to the Advisory Council—and that information was both full and detailed—the Council with heartiness commends the budget presented for its information and suggestion. It notes with pleasure the wise care exercised in the use of the funds committed to the Society. The donors to the Society can preserve the conviction of themselves and their predecessors that the Board of Managers and the officers of the Society are using all the funds committed to them with intelligence, economy, and strict honesty. There is great need of greater funds for the work of the Society.

The Board of Managers, at its meeting on December 2, 1926, recognizing the important contribution made by the presence and counsel of the Advisory Council, took the following action:

The Board of Managers notes with appreciation, that at the Advisory Council meeting of December 1, 1926, evidence was again given of the deep interest and splendid cooperation of the churches of America in the Society's world-wide work of producing and distributing the Holy Scriptures. Not only have the churches contributed to the financial support of the Society, but leading representatives of eighteen denominations gave a whole day for a meeting at the Bible House,

Astor Place, New York City, to confer and advise regarding the budget and program of the Society for 1927. Eight representatives who had been officially appointed by their denominations and who had accepted the invitations, at the last moment were unable to be present.

Resolved, That the Board of Managers take this occasion, officially to express its deep sense of gratitude to the churches' representatives on its Advisory Council, and through them, to their communions, for their abiding interest and generous support.

SERVICE TO THE BLIND

In the actual distribution of volumes of Scripture for the Blind, the year 1926 records the largest service of the Society from the Bible House in any one year to those so handicapped, so far as available records show. The average in the past ten years has been about 2,000 volumes a year. In 1923, when a Small Volume of Scripture Passages was freshly issued and widely welcomed, the total mounted to 2,886, nearly 600 more than in any previous year.

In 1926, the total rose still higher to 3,182, as shown by the table below. While this total does not seem large in contrast with volumes in ink print which the Society issues in many languages, it is, nevertheless a very real contribution. Perhaps comparisons will illustrate what is involved. The amount spent by the Society in supplying these 3,182 volumes would supply 1,281,900 penny portions. In bulk, these 3,182 embossed volumes would be equal to 1,270,000 penny portions.

FROM THE BIBLE HOUSE

System	During 1926	Grand Total to Dec. 31, 1926
Line Letter	71	27,213
New York Point.....	527	25,176
American Braille	242	6,384
Revised Braille Grade 1½.....	1,728	4,623
Moon	466	6,258
English Braille	141	841
Spanish Braille	7	16
Total	3,182	70,511

IN OTHER LANDS

The Japan Agency reported a distribution of 650 volumes of Scripture in Japanese Braille during 1926. Other Foreign Agencies have not given details of distribution this year. The Brazil Agency published 250 Gospels of Mark in Portuguese Braille in 1926.

These volumes are greatly appreciated by those who have almost no other evangelical religious literature, and especially by those who long for the comfort and inspiration of the Scriptures.

NEW PLATES

Electroplates were furnished for the New Testament in the Miskito language and for the Revised New Testament in the Bulu language. Work has been in progress on the Bible in the Luba-Lulua language and on portions of the Scripture in Olu-nyore. The setting up of St. John in Yiddish for printing from linotype slugs has also been in progress.

In addition to the above, plates for Portuguese Gospels, Matthew, Mark and Luke, also Proverbs, were completed and the first editions printed in the penny portion series.

PRINTING IN OTHER LANDS

- At Quezaltenango, Guatemala, in Quiche, 1,000 portions.
- At Beirut*
- At Manila, P. I., in Cebuan, 5,060 Old Testaments, 10,100 New Testaments, 6,000 portions; in Tagalog, 6,050 New Testaments, 8,050 Old Testaments, and 30,175 portions; in Panayan, 1,500 Old Testaments; in Bicol, 3,570 Old Testaments, 5,500 New Testaments, and 5,000 portions; in Ilocano, 21,200 portions.
- At Bangkok, in Siamese, 38,200 portions; in Siam-Lao, 10,000 portions.
- At Chiangmai, in Lao, 14,000 portions; in Siam-Lao, 500 portions.
- At Chengtu, in Mandarin, 165,000 portions.
- At Shanghai, in Mandarin, 12,623 Bibles, 129,250 Testaments, and 3,375,500 portions; in Mandarin and English, 1,000 portions; in Wenli Low, 470 Bibles; in Wenli High, 10 Testaments and 38,000 portions; in Canton Colloquial, 100 Bibles, 200 Testaments, and 21,000 portions; in Canton and English, 498 Testaments; in Fuchau Colloquial, 930 Bibles and 1,500 Testaments.
- At Hongkong, in Canton Colloquial, 2,250 Testaments.
- At Hinghua, in Hinghua Colloquial, 1,000 portions.
- At Tokyo and Kobe, in Japanese, 7,700 Bibles, 98,800 Testaments, and 1,004,000 portions; in Japanese Braille, 650 portions.

* Through a misunderstanding, the facts for 1926 were not available at the time of printing and will be included in the one hundred and twelfth Report.

SCRIPTURES PRINTED AND PURCHASED

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Printed in the U. S.....	246,400	345,000	5,792,500 } Blind— 1,881 }	6,385,781
Purchased in the U. S....	5,100	.....	.....	5,100
Imported from abroad.....	51,919	16,906	56,929 } Blind— 255 }	126,009
Printed abroad	44,812	282,978	4,887,644 } Blind— 900 }	5,216,334
Purchased abroad	18,901	35,547	100,814	155,262
Total	367,132	680,431	10,840,923	11,888,486

ISSUES

The remark with which the paragraph on this subject began last year applies this year. The year under review has exceeded all its predecessors in the number of volumes of Scripture issued by the American Bible Society. The increase this year, however, was entirely in the home field where the issues were 4,352,703 volumes, over against 3,646,548 volumes in 1925. Abroad the issues were 5,554,658 as contrasted with 5,567,875 the year before.

The issues for the one hundred and eleventh year were:

FROM THE BIBLE HOUSE

Bibles	289,421
Testaments	418,291
Portions	3,641,809
Volumes for the blind	3,182
	4,352,703

IN OTHER LANDS

Bibles	70,568
Testaments	235,752
Portions	5,247,688
Volumes for the blind	650
	5,554,658
Total number of volumes	9,907,361

During the year, there were issued from the Bible House in New York, 3,439,606 volumes in English, consisting of 218,871 Bibles, 294,037 Testaments and Testaments and Psalms, 2,923,516 portions, and 3,182 volumes in the various raised systems for the blind. Of the Bibles and Testaments, 19,142 were in the

American Revised Version. In addition, there were 1,312 Concordances issued.

Again, Spanish and Portuguese are the two languages in which the Bible House has issued the largest number of Scriptures next after English. The total in Spanish has risen this year to 480,000 volumes, from 360,000 in 1925, and the total in Portuguese has risen from 140,000 of last year to 166,000. In other European languages, there were issued from the Bible House over 36,000 in French, 34,000 in German, 46,000 in Italian, 19,000 in Polish, and 19,000 in Swedish.

The number of languages other than English in which the Bible House has supplied Scriptures in the past year has increased to 123 as listed below:

<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Acra	1	Finnish	1,560
Albanian	115	Flemish	844
Amharic	2	French	36,606
Annamese	1	Fula	1
Arabic	920	Gaelic	21
Arapahoe	2	German	34,377
Armenian	582	Gilbert Islands	215
Armeno-Turkish	15	Grebo	5
Benga	194	Greco-Turkish	1
Bengali	2,029	Greek	8,756
Bicol	5	Gujarati	735
Braid Scot	12	Hausa	2
Bulgarian	199	Hawaiian	463
Bulu	4,627	Hebrew	1,844
Cebuan	2	Hindi	29
Chamorro	1	Hungarian	3,007
Cherokee	177	Ibanag	2
Chinese, Easy Wenli	13	Ibo	1
Chinese, Wenli	249	Icelandic	5
Chinese, Mandarin	73	Ilocano	5
Chinese, Mandarin (Pho- netic)	101	Irish	12
Chinese, Canton Colloquial	15,901	Italian	46,121
Chinese, Classical	32	Japanese	10,482
Choctaw	108	Javanese	200
Croatian	1,061	Kongo	1
Czechoslovakian	2,276	Korean	319
Dakota	5	Kurdish	9
Danish	263	Latin	404
Dutch	7,446	Lettish	93
Esperanto	235	Lithuanian	1,112
Esthonian	11	Malay	1,128
Ethiopic	3	Maltese	15
Fiji	1	Mandingo	2

<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Languages</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Maori	1	Sheetswa	1,445
Marshall Islands	3	Shilluk	1
Maya	4	Siamese	1
Miskito	981	Sindhi	100
Mortlock	2	Sinhalese	3
Muskogee	2	Slavic	28
Nauru	2	Slovak	1,839
Navaho	111	Slovenian	631
Norwegian	4,266	Spanish	480,939
Ojibwa	2	Swahili	8
Olunyoire	1	Swedish	19,080
Pampangan	383	Syriac (Ancient)	92
Panayan	405	Syriac (Modern)	1,242
Pangasinan	453	Tagalog	1
Panjabi	61	Tahiti	1
Persian	1	Tamil	1
Polish	19,181	Telugu	2
Ponape	1	Tibetan	5
Portuguese	166,985	Tonga	800
Quechua (Bolivia)	2,743	Transcaucasian	2
Roumanian	718	Tukudh	55
Russian	2,201	Turkish	66
Ruthenian	2,080	Turkish-Osmanli	11
Samareño	490	Urdu	1,106
Samoan	2	Welsh	355
Sanskrit	12	Yiddish	3,490
Seneca	3	Yoruba	3
Serbian	650	Zapotec	1
		Zulu	15,006

DISTRIBUTION FROM THE BIBLE HOUSE

Under this heading also a large increase is to be reported, the total distributed in the United States rising to 3,730,336 volumes. Naturally, the main service abroad from the Bible House is rendered in the Western Hemisphere, chiefly in our great sister continent on the south. To the Latin-American republics and the islands of the West Indies, 539,626 volumes were sent.

A considerable service has been rendered to the British and Foreign Bible Society, other Bible Societies, and American and other foreign missionary societies, in the supply of Scriptures, particularly for Africa and the Islands of the Seas.

The following table reports some of the details of this service:

DISTRIBUTION IN FOREIGN LANDS

(Year Ending Dec. 31, 1926)

<i>Country</i>	<i>Volumes</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Volumes</i>
Africa	275	La Plata	138,491
Australia	1	Mexico	39,859
Bahamas	53	New Hebrides	215
Belgium	5,502	Philippines	50,446
Bolivia	2	Poland	350
Brazil	144,352	Siam	112
Canada	495	Sweden	16
Caribbean	87,282	Switzerland	501
China	262	Upper Andes	57,365
England	12,459	Virgin Islands	352
France	5,002	West Indies	71,870
Gilbert Islands	210		
Hawaii	1,063	Total to foreign lands	622,367
Holland	4,000	Total to United States	3,730,336
Italy	1		
Japan	1,754	Aggregate issues from the	
Jugoslavia	77	Bible House	4,352,703

REMITTANCES TO FOREIGN LANDS, 1926

Remittances to foreign lands during 1926 fluctuated again this year, being less to the Foreign Agencies of the Society, more to missionary and other societies, and less to individuals, than in 1925. But such fluctuation is to be expected in the course of the years, since both the conditions of the work and the stock in hand vary from year to year.

The following table shows the value of books and of funds supplied to the fields and groups indicated:

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Books</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Total</i>
Brazil	\$13,724.12	\$6,592.90	\$20,317.02
Caribbean	10,425.03	6,287.85	16,712.88
China	116.95	62,285.28	62,402.23
Japan	676.19	18,601.57	19,277.76
La Plata	12,271.64	7,074.91	19,346.55
Arabic Levant . . . . .	.....	26,196.02	26,196.02
Levant . . . . .	.....	17,478.41	17,478.41
Mexico	9,746.97	5,837.15	15,584.12
Philippines	899.45	34,711.38	35,610.83
Siam	71.37	7,612.89	7,684.26
Upper Andes	2,783.51	11,018.90	13,802.41
West Indies	7,041.33	9,163.38	16,204.71
Total	\$57,756.56	\$212,860.64	\$270,617.20
To missionary and other societies for work in foreign lands	1,976.54	13,251.30	15,227.84
To individuals for use abroad	94.16	6,707.11	6,801.27
Total	\$59,827.26	\$232,819.05	\$292,646.31

RÉSUMÉ OF WORK IN FOREIGN LANDS

The following table presents at a glance a résumé of the statistics under review, together with the corresponding figures for the five preceding years (1921-1925). The "receipts from other lands" are made up principally from the sale of books. The excess of these receipts over the value of books sent abroad is accounted for by the fact that a large part of the foreign issues are printed at the Society's expense in foreign lands.

TABLE OF FOREIGN DISTRIBUTION

Number of Books	111th Year	110th Year	109th Year	108th Year	107th Year	106th Year
Printed abroad—						
Bibles.....	44,812	39,388	48,913	51,974	72,973	35,300
Testaments.....	282,978	180,128	156,633	161,235	150,359	189,800
Portions.....	4,888,544	5,223,790	3,391,332	2,815,227	2,432,143	2,616,670
Total.....	5,216,334	5,443,306	3,596,878	3,028,436	2,655,475	2,841,770
Purchased abroad—						
Bibles.....	18,901	11,328	9,620	33,361	22,606	42,043
Testaments.....	35,547	12,348	23,626	24,750	51,553	36,756
Portions.....	100,814	65,025	94,348	138,856	93,262	138,003
Total.....	155,262	88,701	127,594	196,967	167,421	216,802
Issued abroad—						
Bibles.....	70,568	72,938	84,136	103,740	120,133	79,277
Testaments.....	235,752	230,456	199,056	173,789	224,317	222,233
Portions.....	5,248,338	5,264,481	3,461,414	2,967,561	2,385,692	2,823,375
Total.....	5,554,658	5,567,875	3,744,606	3,245,090	2,730,142	3,124,885
Sent abroad.....	622,367	692,760	311,470	934,369	221,348	271,332
Foreign circulation....	5,836,472	5,535,768	4,056,076	4,179,459	2,951,490	3,396,217
Value of books sent abroad.....	\$59,827 26	\$67,075 50	\$52,652 85	\$62,834 57	\$69,047 85	\$79,321 85
Funds sent to other lands.....	\$232,819 05	\$270,875 42	\$236,083 47	\$231,985 74	\$202,765 76	\$233,635 04
Receipts from other lands.....	\$196,388 62	\$175,583 14	\$159,975 97	\$160,951 40	\$157,826 87	\$134,291 44

CONCLUSION

In the pages which follow will be found in detail the reports of those in charge of the Home and Foreign Agencies of the Society, as well as reports from foreign correspondents in countries where there are no Agencies. The Home Agencies are presented in geographical order, working west from the Atlantic

to the Pacific, while the reports of the Foreign Agencies and foreign correspondents are presented according to their geographical position, beginning with those closest in relation and position to the United States and passing then from the Western Hemisphere to Europe, Africa, Asia, and Micronesia. The explanatory remarks of the editor accompany these reports.

The REPORT concludes with statements on Auxiliaries, Versions, the Society's Library, Summaries of Circulations by other Bible Societies, the Treasurer's Report, with its appropriate tables, and a few general matters as detailed in the Table of Contents on the last page.

HOME AGENCIES AND THE MAP



THE Home Agencies have been constituted, by a geographical division of the United States, for the more efficient and regular prosecution of the work of the Bible Society. This method of carrying on the work in the United States has been followed during the past quarter of a century.

The Agency for work among the Colored People covers the United States; but the nine other Agencies occupy the territories defined on the accompanying map and are named: Eastern, Atlantic, National Capital, South Atlantic, Central, Northwestern, Southwestern, Western, and Pacific Agencies. The reports of these Agencies will be found in the above order.

For record and reference, the list of the Agencies with the dates of their establishment is inserted here, together with the names of the Secretaries, and dates of their appointment:

Agency	Established	Agency Secretary	Appointed
Colored People	1901,	Rev. J. P. Wragg, D.D., New York	1901
Eastern	1908,	Rev. E. M. North, Ph. D., Assoc. Sec., in charge	1927
Atlantic	1910,	Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D., Philadelphia, Pa. . .	1917
National Capital Agency	1925,	Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., Washington, D. C. . .	1925
South Atlantic	1907,	Rev. M. B. Porter, Richmond, Va.	1907
Central	1909,	Rev. Frank Marston, D.D., Cincinnati, O. . . .	1917
Northwestern	1906,	Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., Chicago, Ill. . . .	1925
Southwestern	1907,	Rev. J. J. Morgan, Dallas, Tex.	1910
Western	1907,	Rev. Arthur F. Ragatz, D.D., Denver, Colo. . .	1913
Pacific	1907,	Rev. A. Wesley Mell, San Francisco, Cal. . . .	1908

HOME AGENCY SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE

The report of the Conference held in 1926 appeared in the last ANNUAL REPORT. It is expected that the next Conference will be held in the fall of 1927.





THE SOCIETY'S WORK IN THE UNITED STATES

AGENCY AMONG THE COLORED PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

This Agency was established in 1901, and aims to reach the colored people wherever principally resident. The circulation in 1926 amounted to 141,971 volumes, bringing the circulation total during the twenty-five years up to 1,333,753 volumes of Scripture. Fifty-four persons have been employed in this work, 11 volunteers helping them. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. J. P. Wragg, D.D., Bible House, Astor Place, New York.



UNIQUE condition belongs to this Agency. Its territory is coextensive with the regions occupied by the colored people. As they are constantly migrating to other sections of our country, the responsibility of the Agency spreads over a correspondingly growing territory. The appropriations for the Agency have been increased for its enlarging work; but the population and area for which it is responsible increase more rapidly. Hence, it feels the stringency of limited resources. However, earnest and resourceful workers overcome this handicap in no small measure. The reports of the four sub-Agency Secretaries show the initiative which conditions have stimulated, as an increase of over ten per cent in the circulation shows an increase in the results obtained.

At the end of the year the Board of Managers took special cognizance of the twenty-five noteworthy years of service of Dr. and Mrs. Wragg. They were invited to be present at the monthly meeting of the Board on December 2, 1926, when the following testimonial was formally adopted. The Officers of the Board added their personal tributes and congratulations. The testimonial, handsomely engrossed and

framed, was presented to Dr. and Mrs. Wragg, with a large basket of beautiful flowers contributed by President Hyde and bearing a wide ribbon with the inscription in silver "American Bible Society to Rev. and Mrs. John Percy Wragg, 1901-1926."

THE TESTIMONIAL

The Board of Managers of the American Bible Society places on record, at this, the closing meeting of the year 1926, its appreciation of the remarkable service which has been rendered to the American Bible Society by the Rev. Dr. John Percy Wragg, who has been for twenty-five years the Secretary of its Agency among the Colored People of the United States.

Dr. Wragg entered into the service of the Society in the early summer of 1901, in charge of a special Agency created for the purpose of meeting the needs of the colored people of the South, the Agency being enlarged later to care for the Scripture distribution among the colored people throughout the United States. He has trained and guided a large company of colporteurs in all parts of the country, has effectively used correspondents and missionary agencies, and has achieved a circulation of 1,300,000 volumes of the Scripture among the colored people. Many of its colporteurs have become leading ministers in the churches of their denominations; and Dr. Wragg has so interested the religious leaders among the colored people, that a number of their principal denominations have become a part of the supporting constituency of the Society.

Throughout all these twenty-five years Dr. Wragg has given himself without stint to the work of the Society. He has been an example of industry, fidelity, enterprise, integrity and consecration to all his workers and to all his associates in the various Home Agencies, which have been created on the model which he set up. He is the "Dean" of the Agency Secretaries in the United States, and the Society is ennobled and enriched by the services he has rendered. He has brought honor to it in all parts of this land.

In these resolutions the Society would not fail to include a recognition of the devoted service of Mrs. Jessie Elizabeth Wragg, who has made possible by her wisdom, cheeriness, courage and self-denial, her husband's success.

Dr. and Mrs. Wragg have not only given their lives to this work, but they have made a large and generous gift of many thousands of dollars to the funds of the Society.

The Board of Managers rejoices in this opportunity of honoring Dr. and Mrs. Wragg, and directs that this testimonial

be placed upon the records of the Society, and that an engrossed copy be presented to Dr. Wragg.

Situation of Our Four Depositories

Atlanta Sub-Agency, in charge of the Rev. H. W. B. Wilson, D.D., Secretary, 56 Gammon Avenue, S. E., Atlanta, Ga.

Charlotte Sub-Agency, in charge of the Rev. D. H. Sansom, Jr., Secretary, 403 East Third Street, Charlotte, N. C.

Cleveland Sub-Agency, in charge of the Rev. S. A. Lucas, Secretary, 2319 East 55th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Houston Sub-Agency, in charge of the Rev. M. L. Vaughters, Secretary, 1015 Heiner Street, Houston, Texas.

This Agency divided in the above manner has enabled us to reach a large number of homes that were without the Scriptures. In looking over the number of miles we have traveled during the year and the number of books distributed, we are encouraged; but we have only been able to touch the hem of our large Agency.

Distribution

During the year under review we distributed: Bibles, 10,381; Testaments, 23,104; portions, 108,486; total volumes, 141,971; also 177 Concordances.

Workers

Each sub-Agency Secretary has found it hard to secure the needed workers. Many ask to scatter the Scriptures, but as soon as they find it is truly a missionary work with very little financial compensation, they drop out. The Secretaries can find a large number of people who would like to carry the Word and give it out promiscuously; but this is not the best thing to do as we see it, and as we have tried to carry out in this Agency.

We have to place value on anything that is worth while, and too much cannot be placed upon the Bible. If a portion cannot interest a person who has the means and is able to buy, a Bible will not mean very much more to such. Our men are instructed to study well each case before making a donation or a half grant. They should go into this prayerfully, and remember that those who contribute are giving them a chance to do this missionary work for them. These instructions our sub-Agency Secretaries are trying to carry out; and it is not a small task either. Trained men, Christian men, who love God and love those whom they must serve, are the requisites needed.

Experiences and Incidents

The Rev. Lucas was present at a great missionary meeting of all the denominations held in the city of Cleveland for the purpose of devising ways and means for the spreading of God's Word throughout the city, into every nook and corner. Hearing the announcement regarding the distribution, he immediately approached the gentleman in charge and informed him that he had a large supply of Bibles

and Testaments on hand; and also a plan that would win. "What is it?" was asked. "Just allow me ten minutes to place before the people my plan," he replied. The request was granted, and within the time allowed all purchased a Bible or a Testament. Our Agent closed with these words: "Buy the truth, and sell it not."

The Rev. Vaughters tells us of one of his workers being stopped by officers of the law, while visiting a questionable part of the town. This man had been advised by many people that it was not best to work in that part of the town; but he felt that those were just the people who needed the message most if what was said was true. He went and was soon approached by the officers of the law. He quickly showed his Bibles to them and to others who had gathered around, saying, "Gentlemen, my work, in one respect, is similar to yours. You are here trying to make this part of the town a safe place in which to live, and so am I. The Bible teaches people how to live better lives, to be honest and law-abiding citizens. It denounces drunkenness, robbery, murder, immorality, and, in fact, all kinds of vices." They listened to him attentively, and told him in a very friendly way to go right on. He went, and succeeded in placing quite a large number of Bibles, Testaments, and portions. He writes: "I feel certain that some of them are going to be read, and the people are going to be helped in that section."

We have another worker, the Rev. Mr. Henderson, who is often found around railway stations in large cities and towns. Busy-bodies have tried to give him trouble about his work; but with perennial smiles on his face, Bible in hand, and Scripture passages on the tip of his tongue, he is able to cope with almost any situation of the kind; and his good work goes on. This worker relates the following incident:

"In the waiting-room of a railway station I found a young man preparing to go off on the next train. I offered him a Bible. He declined it, saying, 'I have one at home.' 'Well, take along one of these small Testaments and read while going to your Bible. You will get a lot of information from it that you might otherwise miss.' He stubbornly refused. 'Have you a wife, mother, or friend at the old home you would like to give a present, since it is Christmas?' 'I have a mother.' I picked out one of the Great Primer type Gospels of St. Luke, saying at the same time that I knew his mother, who loved and cared for him and was at that very moment praying for him—since he said that she was a Christian—would like to read this large print very often. 'Will you take it for that mother whose sight is evidently growing dim? She would be delighted to have the Word of God in this large print?' His face brightened as he ran his hand in his pocket and paid for the book. I have found that, when we cannot interest a person one way, we must try another."

The Rev. D. H. Sansom tells of a section in his area where the Gospels were eagerly sought. In some of the rural sections, were

it not for the colporteurs, little would be known about the Word of God. He writes that in some parts of the mountain country his men find people who love God, and they often hear varied expressions from them. Once this expression was heard: "The reason I love God's Word so much, is because he speaks the same to all."

Dr. Wilson tells us of their work in Florida: "'When we first started working this state last year, we found much to do,' says the Rev. Poe, our colporteur. 'Many people in their rush for gold were scattered everywhere. Thousands were living in tents. They brought their help along, and it was these we were seeking. We found that many of them were good church members and owned Bibles, but had failed to bring them along; while others had never owned a Bible or any part of one. We had only to show our books and tell our prices, and the people were supplied. They were always happy to see us return.'

Dr. Wilson's Lightless Church

"I visited a church in one of our cities to tell them about our work, and as we entered, it began to rain. As the pastor was reading his first hymn, the electric lights in the church went out. The people were there to hear the 'Bible man,' and the pastor was anxious to have them hear and understand the work of the American Bible Society. He would not be daunted, but went out and secured somewhere an old lamp, a candlestick, and a flashlight. The lamp and the candlestick were placed in the rear of the church. The minister's wife held the flashlight on the speaker. I was so impressed with those earnest seekers of the true knowledge of what the Society was doing in spreading the Word of God, that I forgot that I was in an unlighted church. When I closed, I said to them, 'The Bible is the Only Way out of the Dark.' It was very touching at that very moment. Who knows what each of these little leaflets are doing to open the eyes of the blind? 'The entrance of Thy Word giveth light.'"

The Rev. S. A. Lucas preached at a missionary meeting, and with the ushers' assistance Testaments were offered to the people, with the instruction that they take them home and write their names in them, and give them out to some who were not at this meeting and did not have a Testament and needed one. This, he said, is the true missionary spirit. In a few minutes, at six cents each, 200 Testaments were being sent out to those who failed to be present at this meeting. He writes:

"I noticed a young woman taking out a little book on entering the railway coach mornings and evenings, and throwing her eyes on the number of the coach. One day I remarked that it was one of our little portions. I heard her say to a gentleman that whatever was the number of her coach she would turn to that number in the Psalms and read it for her 'train devotion.' The first two figures represented the Psalm that was to be read, and the other two were the numbers of the verses that would help her during the day. She had found

these verses just the thing she needed to steer her aright. She asked him to try her method out, and assured him that he would find it worth while."

Dr. Wilson also tells us this experience in trying to attend the many conferences and gatherings in his area: "I have traveled 891 miles, and visited forty-two conferences and different kinds of gatherings. I have tried to sleep with three in a bed, and I have been forced three times to appear before conferences without opportunity to brush up after my journey. Yet I must take a chance whenever I can find one open to present the work we are trying to do."

At Headquarters

While our men find many things of interest on the field, we have many things of interest right here in our office. Not long since we were very much touched when a lady, being led by a young girl, entered, asking for a Bible with large print, so that she might read the "blessed words of Christ." She was not blind, but her sight was very dim. We showed her Bible after Bible, but without any help. We wish we could picture that sad face when she thought she could not find the right print. We did not give up, however, but kept at it until success rewarded our search. When she read a few lines from the Bible, she cried out for joy, and kissed and hugged the Book with, "Thanks, thanks—I have it." She was also deaf, and when we asked her to allow us to wrap it, she held it very close to her heart until the young woman could make her understand what we would like to do with it for her. She left, saying, "Blessed Word of God, I love you—I have found you. I can and will read you." We found several tracts that she could also read, and while doing so, she seemed to forget that she was nearly blind. His Word is able to brighten every life. How glad we were to help her!

We have had people of all kinds come in to ask for the *free Bibles*, some asking for as many as one hundred or more—as they had been told that we had this building full of Bibles to be given out for the asking. We have had to explain to them that we were doing this work with sacred money given by people with big hearts, who were anxious to distribute the Scriptures free to those who were too poor to buy—but not to strong men and women able to work and earn enough in an hour to pay for several of our cloth bound books. We also urged that these able-bodied people should help up to pay for those who are really not able to purchase a Bible. Many times they have given in and said, "That is true; for I throw away a lot of money." We have had them meet us many times a part of the way, and often after our heart-to-heart talk we have even had them make us a contribution with a promise to do more, "since we were not throwing the people's money away."

Orphans

One of our good bishops, following our Master's injunction that

the crumbs must be saved, did not have time to purchase a ticket at the station, and in paying the conductor his fare asked for his rebate. On leaving the train he passed it to me to collect the amount. An application for portions to an orphanage reached us on our arrival at our desk, and we thought it would please him to have us invest this amount with a full grant we were going to send. We informed him of the act, and received a letter with his approval. That little rebate, small in itself, but redeemed and put into good use, may mean the saving of many souls; while, on the other hand, if thrown away, as we often see it done, it is only cast into the fire to be burned.

We have counted it a great privilege to send Bibles, Testaments, and portions to orphanages in our Agency. In one of them a number of children sent letters of thanks in their own little handwriting. We will allow you to read one of them:

"My dear friends—I thank you for the Bible you sent me Christmas. We have been having Bible lessons in school all this year. Mrs. — has been teaching us. We are getting ready for Children's Day. We had a very pretty Christmas tree, and a real nice Easter too. Friends were kind to us."

From the above orphanage this letter comes to us, which is very interesting, we think, and we will give you a chance to pass on it:

"All of the children are learning passages from the Bible each month, and the day they recite them they call 'Bible Sunday.' One of the things I like to do with them when I go out occasionally, is to let them tell Bible stories without the use of names, and see how far they can go before the others guess about whom they are talking. It would surprise you to see how quickly they are stopped in the telling by the other children."

Schools

Many of the schools have had full grants or half grants during the year, and have been very grateful for the Bibles, Testaments, and portions. Many have sent thanks for the clear print, and the consideration granted them. We are sorry we have not been able to meet in full every demand; but we have tried to help all who have called upon us, as far as the means at our command would permit.

Delinquent Young Women

We have sent Bibles, Testaments, and portions to these young women who are trying to mend their ways. We are told by those who are trying to encourage them, that they read the Scriptures earnestly; and many times a change comes into some of their lives, as they show it in going about their daily tasks in a much better spirit than before, and in talking more freely with those who are interested in carrying the Scriptures to them. "One of these young women said, 'I did not know I could be good again, until I talked with you and you told me that this Christ came into the world to save even a person like me. I am going to stick to him when I am out of here as well as now.'" ●

Hospitals

The sick have not been neglected. We have had the very great pleasure of sending Bibles, Testaments, and portions to them. They have been very thankful to the Society and its friends for making this possible. You may enjoy reading the following letter:

"The Testaments and Gospels arrived, and they are a joy to my heart when I realize what they are going to mean to those who are going to receive them. In the name of the workers and the patients of this hospital, we thank you."

Young People's Society

Through their Christian organizations many young people have been put in touch with the Bible, and are reading it with more interest than ever before, we are told.

The Rev. Mr. Sansom has been very active in seeing that the young people who attend the summer vacation Bible schools are supplied with the portions as far as possible; and also at Christmas time and Easter he has had the pleasure of distributing through his area a large number of them. These little seeds will do their work, if properly nourished.

The Rev. Dr. Wilson has remembered the young people's organizations by making grants, half grants, and reductions. Among these were the Y. M. C. and Y. W. C. Associations.

The Rev. Mr. Lucas tells us of a Bible Christmas tree for the young people of a Sunday school. The tree was beautifully decorated, and on its branches hung a Testament for each member of the Sunday school, with the name of the pastor and superintendent inscribed on each cover. At the base of the tree were strewn other presents. The pastor had suggested that these two hundred Testaments be bought from us and used in the above way. This has created a desire to get a Testament in many people who had never thought of owning one.

The Rev. Mr. Vaughters is keeping the pastors enlisted in getting out the portions among their young people, in order to get them interested in reading the Scriptures.

Displays

Sub-Agency Secretary Sansom tells us that he has found it very helpful to have an open Bible in his depository window. Each day, says he, numbers of men, women, and children stop and read a few verses. The pages he shifts regularly. His displays are arranged to suit the occasion and season.

Sub-Agency Secretary Lucas was granted a space for a display of his Bibles, etc., at the Elks of the World's Convention. Cleveland was alive with this large organization of people from all over the United States. He arranged his stock in a pleasing manner. Our literature was given out freely, and he had a chance, while showing

our stock and also selling a large number of books, to tell of what the American Bible Society stood for in the life of the nation. All of the visitors with whom he came in contact said that it was the first time in the history of the conventions that they had ever witnessed a display of Bibles and Testaments.

Sub-Agency Secretary Wilson has made it a point to have "Bible boxes" at a few railroad stations, which from time to time he has filled with free distribution portions. The travelers have been glad to get these; and we feel that some of them, at least, have learned a little more about God's Word while on their journey.

Sub-Agency Secretary Vaughters traveled over a large part of his area, attending gatherings and churches, giving lectures, and displaying with a stereopticon machine different phases of the Bible work. "With this machine," he writes, "we have given the people a chance to see the Bible Society in action."

Our sub-Agency Secretaries have labored earnestly to do the work committed to their keeping. They are trying to do a systematic line of work in their several areas, as you have noticed in this general report with a few facts from each of them.

They have traveled extensively day and night to reach the people and places they must interest in the scattering of the Scriptures. It has not always been easy for them either, as they must take what accommodations they are able to get. Their means are very limited, and they must stretch the amount allowed them pretty hard to reach the large number of people who are asking for the Word of God.

This bird's-eye view of the work will bring to your mind that, if we only had some of this world's goods that are being thrown to the winds, we might be able to place thousands of copies of the blessed Word of God in the homes of the people. We need the means to aid us in sending out more regular workers, who will go in the spirit of the Christ looking for those who have been neglected or some of those who have not as yet been awakened.

Our cry is, Help us to find the means to send out His Word to every nook and corner in the world.

EASTERN AGENCY

The Eastern Agency was established in June, 1908. Its field embraces New York and the neighboring New England states, so far as they are not otherwise cared for by state and county Bible societies. During the year ending December 31, 1926, the circulation was 232,838 volumes, which makes the total number put into circulation since the establishment of the Agency, 1,956,356 volumes. Twenty-eight persons were employed in the distribution during 1926—2 colporteurs and 26 correspondents, 8 volunteers helping. Correspondence may be addressed to the Rev. Eric M. North, Ph.D., Bible House, Astor Place, New York.



THE report of this Agency shows a considerable and interesting work accomplished in spite of some adverse conditions. County fairs apparently play a larger part than in other Agencies. Its territory is also peculiarly rich in auxiliary Bible societies, — over a quarter of all the auxiliaries of the American Bible Society. Seventeen of these have been cooperating in active service over a century. In the one state of New York the Scriptures were circulated in forty-nine different languages, and six systems for the blind, during the year under review. Recording Secretary Chamberlain gave such time as possible from his main duties to the supervision of the Agency's affairs during the year and has prepared its report. The Agency has now become a part of the work which Associate Secretary North has taken up on assuming his new post.

A fair judgment of the work accomplished in the territory of this Agency can be formed only with several facts in mind. While it is the only Home Agency whose responsibility is limited practically to one state, within that state there is a population larger than that of each of five other Agencies. Its appropriation is less than that of all but one of the other Agencies. It is the only Agency which has not the supervision of a full-time Secretary. The circulation accomplished directly by the representatives of the Agency was 232,838. But, if the additional circulation accomplished by auxiliary Bible societies in its territory were included, the total would rise to 280,000; and, if the circulation accomplished by other Bible and missionary organizations were also included, the record would show a circulation of a million volumes of Scripture through those at work within the state of New York.

More than in any other state in the Union, there are in this state old and vigorous local Bible societies. The one making the largest distribution is the New York Bible Society,—not now auxiliary,—which has for its specific field the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx. The Brooklyn Bible Society, whose executive committee is the advisory committee of the Eastern Agency, helps meet the needs of the boroughs of Kings and Queens, and carry on work at Coney Island during the summer. The Westchester County Bible Society, which is over one hundred years old, is active in that county lying just north of New York City, under the leadership of the Rev. Arthur Requa, its secretary. At the western extreme of the state is the vigorous Buffalo and Erie County Bible Society, under the devoted leadership of the Rev. T. H. Orme, Ph.D., doing intensive work especially in the city of Buffalo by annual house-to-house visitation of different sections.

In between these extremes, are other auxiliaries which, in more or less measure, look after local needs, or see to the distribution of Scriptures on special occasions. For example, the Ulster County Bible Society, which became an auxiliary in 1816, during the past year, largely stimulated and guided by the Rev. H. Smith, its secretary, made a careful canvass of the schools of the county and is engaged in a campaign to supply the Scriptures to all these schools and their scholars. Last year, it also equipped with Bibles the new Governor Clinton Hotel at Kingston. The Schenectady Bible Society, another centenarian, made a similar contribution last year under the leadership of Mr. R. H. Keller, its secretary, placing Bibles in all the rooms of the new Van Cuyler Hotel of that city. Still another centenarian, the Dutchess County Female Bible Society, in addition to carrying on its own local work, repeated its service of several previous years by cooperating with the Eastern Agency in maintaining and caring for a Bible booth at the Dutchess County Fair.

Our Policy for the Year

So far as a general policy for the year has been possible, it has been to increase the effectiveness of the work, and to carry it into sections of the state not reached in recent years.

One such area is that lying north of the Mohawk Valley and between the Adirondacks and Lake Ontario. A colporteur, well recommended for his devotion and service of some years in connection with the Canadian Bible Society, who sought work with us, accepted the responsibility of working in this territory. The records of the year bear out the testimony to his devotion. But the conditions under which he labored were somewhat adverse, and the result has not been satisfactory enough to continue the arrangement.

The second largest area calling for attention is the tier of counties bordering on Pennsylvania. Negotiations with several applicants for work have fallen through, and plans for an active campaign in

this region have had to be deferred to the current year. There is good prospect of the work being undertaken by a vigorous young veteran. He is a retired minister well acquainted in those counties and should, with the aid of the automobile which he uses, conduct a campaign that will result both in the circulation of the Scriptures and also in stimulating pastors, Christians and churches in that section, in the responsibility and privilege of distributing the Scriptures.

Our Workers

The limitation in funds naturally has limited the number of employed workers. One colporteur was employed, in 1926, on full time, and a second on half time, the Atlantic Agency using the other half of his time. Several more, not receiving salaries, have been remunerated by a commission on their sales of Scriptures. The policy of the Society being to sell its Scriptures without purpose of profit, there is not leeway for any considerable discount. This our workers all understand, and much service is rendered for a little pay. One of the stimulating returns to one supervising this work is the evidence of the devotion and character of many of these workers. How some of them manage to make ends meet is a marvel. Perhaps some do not.

As this report is being prepared, it is interrupted by a call from one of whom our reports have made mention in the past. Employed as an inspector by one of the gas companies of Greater New York, he rejoices in not only having in his own home a stock of Scriptures for which he pays, but also in taking Gospels and Testaments in his pockets as he goes on rounds among other homes and institutions, offices, etc., and passing out the Word of God to those he thus meets, as well as to others he meets on the street. His gentle manner and utter sincerity win a reception for the Scriptures from most unlikely prospects.

Another enthusiastic worker is a man of education and culture, whose ten years' experience as an Egyptologist working among the tombs of the Kings in Egypt makes him an acceptable lecturer. He craves, and rejoices in, the opportunity to conduct Bible booths in county fairs, and opportunity also to circulate the Scriptures elsewhere. Another is a young Russian, who has been equipping himself in one of our Biblical seminaries for Christian work among his countrymen. He gives his spare hours to selling Scriptures among the many Russians, Poles, and Czechoslovaks, whose languages he uses, turning all the commission he receives into sending Bibles for circulation in the homelands across the Atlantic. Still another is one who has spent many decades in various lands. He reads, writes and talks eight languages, and loves to spend his closing years in circulating the Scriptures in these varied languages. Still another is a wealthy building contractor, so busy that he cannot spend much time himself in Christian work. He employs others to do it, and

purchases from us, for their distribution, volumes of Scripture by hundreds and thousands. He distributes not a few himself, as opportunity comes in the course of his business, and modestly has so kept in the background, that his name and these facts have only recently come to our knowledge.

Several ordained ministers, some themselves from other lands, working among those not yet Americanized, rejoice in this same service of Scripture circulation. One is a German, three are Italian, another Portuguese, another Spanish, and another hails from Denmark. Many mission and evangelistic workers are active in getting the Bible into the hands and hearts of the people.

Nor are the women leaving this field to men. A busy homemaker rejoices in carrying a small stock of Scriptures in her home and reaching out into other homes, and into churches and Sunday schools, stimulating the distribution and use of the Bible. A retired teacher, wishing to make her life still count, carries a little stock in her new home with the same purpose. Members of various councils of the Daughters of America have come singly and in groups to purchase Bibles to be placed in public schools.

As will be seen later, the list of the means of circulation has not been exhausted. Much is done by missionary organizations and individual city missions. Much is also done at county fairs. Masonic, Odd Fellows, and other lodges also are channels of circulation through their equipping new members with Bibles.

Headquarters Staff

Before passing on to the detailed reports of some of the workers, it is fitting that special mention be made of the devoted and efficient service of the staff at headquarters. Much of the result, and a large part of the actual work, of the circulation is due to the faithful and able work of Mrs. Agassiz and her assistants in the salesroom. It serves not only the Agency, but also stands as the place where friends of the Society from other sections of the country may see the variety of its publications in language, bindings and sizes of type.

Reports from Workers

In taking up the reports from the workers themselves, we will journey with them from New York up the Hudson to Albany, and out west to Buffalo.

The only one employed on salary here in Greater New York during the year was Mr. A. B. Traina, an Italian colporteur who had been with the Agency for several years. The half of each month which he spent with us was devoted to house-to-house visitation in ten different sections of Brooklyn. His chief effort was to reach those using languages with which he was somewhat familiar,—Italian, Spanish and English;—but he also worked among Greeks, Poles, and Jews, as he found them. The spread of the younger gen-

eration to the suburbs, and the multitude of the foreign population in the city, he considers a great challenge to the Society. "The foreigners among whom I worked are not churched nor evangelized. They know nothing of the Bible, and their children are brought up in total ignorance of the Scriptures in any form. I have worked in the various parts of Brooklyn as reported, which include the slums among Italians, Spaniards, Greeks, Polish, Jewish, and Colored. I have distributed 3,082 volumes."

In Brooklyn and Coney Island

The Rev. Paul Bender, an ordained Baptist minister, who uses German, Yiddish, and English, has endeavored to carry the Scriptures into parts of Brooklyn not reached by Mr. Traina. He works during the summer in collaboration with the Rev. T. C. Roberts-Horsfield, secretary of the Brooklyn Bible Society, spending Saturday, Sunday, and holidays at Coney Island. He sets up a Scripture booth on Saturdays and holidays. From his report we take the following extracts.

"Greater New York and surrounding country is the greatest mission field in the world. There are about fifteen million people within a radius of twenty-five miles from the center of the city. This mission field, with all its upspringing new sections and towns, has enough working space for a number of colporteurs.

"I had the opportunity last summer to preach in a church in New York. After the service, the organist asked me the price of a good Bible. I told him, and sold him a very fine Bible. He told me that it was the first time he had had a Bible in his home, though he had been the organist of that church for thirty-one years, and his wife had been a soloist for three years, both of them attending church twice every Sunday.

"I had a very fine experience in the summer time at Coney Island, mostly with the Jews. They would come and see the Jewish New Testaments and Hebrew Bibles and would question us about them. We have to answer many questions from the thousands of people that come to us. We hold meetings there every Saturday afternoon and Sunday, and hundreds of them attend these meetings, and raise their hands to show they will start a new life and give their hearts to God. The work among the Jews in the summer time was a blessed one!"

Among the Slavs

Mr. N. Lukianchuk, an earnest Russian Christian, deeply concerned for the welfare of the Russian, Polish, and Slovak people in Greater New York, and also in those in Europe, has this to say:

"I visit the homes of Russian, Polish, and Slovak people who live in our city. These people will not go into our churches, and so know little about the saving power of the Lord Jesus Christ. My

privilege is to go into these homes, selling Bibles and at the same time showing them the way to obtain eternal life.

"A Mr. John, one of these people, who has now returned to Poland to carry the gospel to his people, made this remark before he went: 'I praise God for the American Bible Society and for what it has done for the Russian people in America who were not able to obtain Bibles; not because they could not afford to pay for them, but because they were not printed in their own language until six years ago.' They are now able to read Bibles in their languages, because they are printed by your people. I have done this work for not quite a year, while being a student of the National Bible Institute. I sold during that time over three hundred Bibles, and one hundred and fifty New Testaments."

The Gasman

Mr. Stokes, the Brooklyn gasman, gives these items:

"Once more, today, I have been privileged to pass out a few portions of the blessed Book. I wrote out two orders for gas ranges—for which I am thankful—and had some very pleasant openings to give away tracts and Gospels. In one home also an opportunity for prayer—for a little fellow who was ill.

"Each day it is my custom to place in my pocket, starting out for the day's labor, tracts or Gospels or both; and do here a little and there a little to spread the Word. Bootleggers, Jews, Roman Catholics, Protestants, New Thought people, Christian Science, followers of Pastor Russell, of spiritualism—all kinds, rich, poor, young, old, religious, indifferent, antagonistic. And very seldom is a tract or Gospel refused.

"I remember one that was refused one day, about two months ago, in a restaurant on the corner of Hudson Avenue and Willoughby Street. The man to whom it was offered said he could not read and furthermore had little use for the gospel—would throw anybody out of his house who should come there to preach. He said also that a minister of the gospel was the cause of his receiving once a sentence in jail for from fifteen to thirty years; and he was innocent of the crime, but stood the penalty to save his son who committed the murder, not himself.

"But, it happens, I was on board that ship that carried that drinking excursion crowd about fifteen years ago. Brother Carlson was with me. We were selling Bibles on board, and when the boat landed at Great Bear Mountain, I stayed aboard to pray—alone—that this carousing crowd (a good part of them) would be saved.

"When the crowd returned to the boat prior to sailing, the murder was on everybody's tongue, and all seemed to maintain that the man was the murderer, and had shot his son's opponent in a fist fight when the other young man landed a well-aimed blow and knocked his son down (and his own son, so they said, started the fight).

"All the way home on the boat I was convinced that I should deal with the father about his soul; but I quenched the spirit, and many times since have regretted it. And here I met him again! I found him hard and cold to Christ. But I said to him: 'To-day Christ has answered my prayer. I was on that excursion, and everyone said you were guilty, and I did not speak to you about your soul; but, thank God, I see you to-day.' But he quickly left the lunchroom. At least I had given him the message of Christ's love for sinners.

An Assault and a "Cop"

"A number of years ago, about eleven o'clock at night, a block or so away in that same rough neighborhood,—Lafayette Street and Hudson Avenue,—a young man approached me and said, 'You had better keep the Bible out of this neighborhood. You don't see the priest going around like this.' 'Well, my friend,' I replied, 'if you need a Bible, and want to get one from the priest, no doubt he'll give you one. As for me, I intend to keep the Bible in this neighborhood.'

"At that, another man came from behind and struck me, ran a few feet and stopped. I quickly caught him by the shoulder and, spying a policeman opposite, whistled for him. In a jiffy he was across the street, and had the young man who struck me. Of a sudden ten or fifteen men appeared, and all claimed that no one hit me. 'What did you run for,' said the cop, 'if you didn't hit him?' So he marched him down the street, the young man who first approached me following about a block or so behind.

"'Tell me how this happened,' asked the cop. So I described the thing that took place. 'Do you get paid for this work,' asked the officer. 'No,' I replied. 'Are you a Christian?' said the cop. 'Yes,' I answered. 'Can you forgive this fellow and let him go?' 'Yes; I'll gladly forgive him and let him go, if he'll own up he hit me.' So the officer made it plain to the young man that he would have his liberty if he would confess his fault. All the starch had entirely left the poor fellow. He confessed his fault in trembling fashion, and promised better behavior in future. So he went on his way, and I saw him no more. The officer maintained that this man who hit me was put up to it by the others. The officer knew who he was, a driver of a coal truck. Thank God for such a happy ending of the affair."

Speaking Ten Languages

Mr. James P. Novak has traveled in different lands and claims a speaking knowledge of Serbian and its allied Slovak, Polish, Russian and Bulgarian neighbors, and a good knowledge of German, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian. Of himself he says:

"I was selling the output of the American Bible Society for over twenty-five years both in North and South Americas, as well as in Mexico, on a commission basis. In years gone by, I used to receive

a number of copies for free distribution in Mexico and South America. Since I came to New York, I have not been very successful on account of many drawbacks, especially on account of having had to move from place to place. But I hope that, in the future, things will turn out to be altogether different. I have thus far done the best I could in bringing the work of the American Bible Society before all sorts of people."

In New York Harbor

A fuller statement has come from Mr. R. A. West, in charge of the Immanuel Mission to Seamen, through whom work has been carried on in the harbor of New York. Of it he reports:

"The year 1926 having just come to its close, I am rendering this report of the work among seamen to all who have felt and shared the burden of it in one way or another. It is sent out for the information, encouragement, and prayers of such,—not only for the past year, but with the hope of our God doing more for us in the coming year. 'He is able'—this is our motto.

"Our principal objective, as before, was the visiting of seamen on tramp freighters—men who had little or no chance of hearing the truth. Numbers of other ships we might have reached; but I felt the need of these men particularly. Among these I found, as heretofore, thousands of foreigners, such as Chinese, Japanese, Malays, Arabs, South Africans, West Indians, Moslems (who read Bengali, Urdu, and other India languages), Portuguese, Brazilians, Belgians, and eight or more other nationalities, like French, Italian, Spanish, etc. All in all, I gave out Scripture portions, pamphlets, and tracts to some 25,000 men representing about twenty-two different tongues.

"As I said, I might have gone to many American and British sailors, but I would have lost out on the others; and obeying the Scriptural method of going to those among whom Christ was 'not named,' I am sure it was more according to the mind of the Lord. As it now stands, however, there were some 7,000 British and 1,000 American seamen evangelized. As to number of ships reached, it can not now be determined; but I believe there were 760 or more visits made, some vessels two or three times. This exceeds 1925 by almost 150, and the previous year, 1924, by 250; so you will see how the Lord has widened the door for the work here."

Up the Hudson

Passing up the Hudson, we have this word from Mrs. E. G. Banker, of Peekskill:

"Let me say that, seeing the great need of helping people in Peekskill to procure the Word of God for personal use; and also to assist those teaching the Word, to secure copies for their work,—and most of the above has been done for teachers and Sunday-school classes, as no store has been well, or at all, interested in the work,—

I used my own money for the work right here in my home. I have found real pleasure in helping those who wished just two or three copies of Psalms or one or two Bibles for their work. Were you here I could tell you better than I can write just how it was. The Bible No. 54B I call the Sunday-school class Bible, and I have supplied several classes with it. Since last May I have not ordered so many. But it is quite well known that 'Mrs. Banker can get what you want.' It is really true, we have to help the other fellow do what he ought to do without any help."

A Blind Worker

A worker who has rendered somewhat irregular service in New York and neighboring states is the Rev. F. W. Armstrong, who lost his eyesight through an accident, unless it were the planned result of those who disliked his activity for civic betterment in the town in which he was then living. He is happy when able to take the Scriptures to those who need them, and reports briefly:

"I have not been very well this year, and have not done so much business. And as for territory, I have had no particular place. The Bibles that I have sold have been in connection with churches, conventions and assemblies that I have attended. I have felt that, on account of my condition, you have helped me to occupy my time; and it has always been a pleasure to sell the Bible. I place them with the poor, and to some that have never had one before."

Albany and County Fairs

At Albany, we are fortunate in having a vigorous representative in Mr. Harold Jones, whose work in that region has commended him to Christian people and resulted in a considerable circulation of the Scriptures. Of his work at the county fairs he wrote in October:

"You have no doubt by now seen my report for the month of September, and noticed that we have placed a very large amount of Scriptures in our fair work this fall. I know that you will agree with me that this phase of the work is most valuable, both in the circulation of the Scriptures, and in bringing before the eyes of the people the work of the great American Bible Society. In this way it is possible to reach a large number of people that could be reached in no other way.

Ballston Spa. "Our first fair this fall was at Ballston Spa. By the kindness of the treasurer, who knows of the work of the Society, we were given a free location in one of the buildings. It was an excellent spot indeed, as from early morning till late in the afternoon we were kept busy passing out our literature and selling the Scriptures. As the location was good here, we were enabled to make a splendid display. We had our booth decorated with white and yellow crepe paper; and posters telling of the work of the Society were well displayed. We made good sales here, and thousands of people passed our stand.

Oneonta. "The next fair was Oneonta. We had some difficulty in obtaining a suitable stand here, as they did not know of the work of the Society, and were not inclined to show favors. However, we secured a small corner in the main building without charge, and again started to display our goods. For days we were kept busy handing out literature, and selling the Word of God. It is hard to tabulate numbers, but from morning to evening people simply filed past our stand.

Altamont. "As we had been at the Altamont Fair the year previous and had received much encouragement, we decided that we would try it this year. This is a very important fair and should always be worked up by the Bible Society, as two great cities are represented in this fair together with what is known as the Capitol District, which takes in other cities. Here they will not give free space to any one, as all the available space is rented long before the fair commences. I got into touch with the secretary, and, as most of the space was taken up, was indeed fortunate in securing a place, the cost being \$39. This fair had a record attendance this year, and some of the days over 15,000 people came. As we were in a fine location, they could not fail to see us. We disposed of a large amount of volumes here; and also the amount of literature given out was very high.

Morris. "We then went to the Morris Fair. We were unable to get an inside location, but secured a tent; and as the management consented to give us free outside space, we remained here for the length of the fair. May I say just here that the best space is an inside space. But the managers of fairs are not as a rule willing to give us this space, as they are able to sell it long in advance of the fair. Our sales here amounted to \$60.

Cobleskill. "The last fair of the month was at Cobleskill. Again we could not secure inside space, but used a tent. This is a very large fair indeed, and a large number of people attended, some of the days from 15,000 to 20,000. As we were on a prominent place on the ground, these people saw our tent, nicely decorated and covered with posters of the Bible Society.

"The results of these fairs cannot be measured as to the value both in distribution of the Scriptures and in advertising the work of the Society. Just think! there were many at the Altamont Fair who paid \$42 for a booth close to ours and did not sell a thing, but did it from the standpoint of advertisement.

"Many are the remarks that we hear. People have come to us and said, 'I am a Life Member of the Society, and I am glad to see the work that they are doing in this way.' Others have made inquiries about Bible bonds, and we have been glad to tell them how to obtain them. Ministers have visited us and told us how glad they are to see the Bible Society so active in this work. So we have to be thankful that we have thus been able to bring our work before the people.

"This part of the state has indeed a very large and needy population. Here are several cities—Schenectady, Cohoes, Troy, Watervliet, Rensselaer, and Albany, besides other small towns and villages. Each of them contains a cosmopolitan population, some of which are in great need of the Scriptures. I have been into homes where they have not had a single copy of the 'Word of God,' and I have had the privilege of placing the Scriptures therein. This coming year I am hoping to reach many of these places with auto and camp trailer attached to our car, so that we can live in the district we happen to be working.

"The number of volumes distributed in 1926 is: 650 Bibles, 1,066 Testaments, and 8,177 portions, or a total of 9,893."

With the Lumbermen

Up in the Adirondacks, we share in the work among the lumbermen carried on by the Rev. A. B. Maddox, missionary of the Presbyterian Church. Our part is the contribution of a considerable number of portions of the Scriptures. An instance of the result is contained in one of his letters: "We visited about eighty-six camps this winter and distributed Gospels in a large number of them. One of my fellow-workers, telling of an incident connected with an Italian to whom he had given a copy, writes: 'About four months afterward I met him again, and he remembered me and said, "That was a good book you gave me to read; I read him all twice." I said I was glad he liked it, and asked him which one of the Gospels it was. "He was Matthew." "All right," I said; "now I will give you Luke." He took it and thanked me.' Several times foreigners have asked me if they might have another copy, as they wished to send a copy home to their families. At least two Russians, two Poles, and one Hungarian have made such a request. Fortunately I was able each time to furnish them the extra copy they asked for."

Difficulties and Reflections

With headquarters at Syracuse, Mr. J. Geymonat, a French-Canadian, has been distributing the Scriptures. He has not been able to accomplish what was purposed in reaching up into the north toward the St. Lawrence River. The rather quaint English in which his report is written, and the fervor of his spirit, are both engaging:

"My work in the past year is 125 volumes in bigger and small size for the American Bible Society. Fifty for other Society. Total volumes, 175 — in different languages, English, French, Italian, Polish, Croatian — for the value of near 150 Dollars. The territory to visit is Oneida Co., Madison Co., Onondaga Co. I visit one time only above Utica region until Malone, but, I cannot stay longer in the mention locality because the expense is so havey and the selling is so less.

"I notice that some people like to buy the Holy Bible and portions, but the numbre is in the poor family, and I must sell on credit. A few send me the mony, but the numbre that cannot paid is more. I find some people that read the Bible with pleasure, but if the priest know the thing; the membre is throw out the church.

"Now I will just tell you on experience. I made 3 trip from Syracuse in the Oswego lines — in 3 different village. I paid for my fare in 3 trip 1 Doll. 20, I sold in 3 day 6 Bibles, American 2, Polisch 2, and Italian 2. All the people buy the Bible on Credit, exception of 2 paid me. Now if I don't consent to make credit I don't sell nothing. With the credit chance, the people can read the word of God. If the people is far from the annoiance of the priest, I believe my money come back to me, but, Hurry, if the priest know the Bible is reading by his lambs, the last thing for the Bible is the fire, and my monny I cannot expect to receive it! The seed, if it sow here and there, can carry in the future some fruit for the Lord field. But if the seed is no sow, never can expect to hervester anything.

"In conclusion, I will tell you I am all time ready for the Almyghty Lord work — but, I am have 62 years. My healt is no so fine in the present. Yet I cannot stay lasy. But, if I work again, must I have help for travel, and to carry the Bible where the people is without. That is the sacrifice of the Colporteur man."

Large Work in and around Rochester

The doyen and most successful of our field staff is the Rev. D. H. Findlay. He has a record in one respect which may not be duplicated by any other colporteur of our Society at home or abroad. It is the result of a policy which he has adopted of his own initiative. He reports 2,599 Bibles, 3,612 Testaments, and 26,626 portions, or a total of 32,837 volumes of Scripture distributed, and he has remitted to the Society *the catalogue price of every single volume*. Previous years have had this same record of the Society receiving its price for each volume he distributed. Nevertheless, he has never failed to supply a volume to anyone in real need, whether that person could pay for it or not. He insists that the American Bible Society makes a sufficient contribution in supplying the volumes of Scripture at the prices it names in so many languages; and that any community is responsible for supplying, and is able to supply, any need within its own bounds. Therefore, when he learns of any need which cannot be met by the individual or individuals concerned, he seeks and obtains the money from some person or group, pays the Society for the books, and gives the books to those in need. He is an enthusiast about the Bible, and in giving its message to individuals. This enthusiasm he communicates to others. A remarkable illustration is recorded on a later page. He glories in being called the "Bible Man." His influence is being extended beyond the confines of the great city in which he lives, as the following will reveal:

"Rochester has a population of about 350,000, which is nearly double what it was when I was sent here nearly fifteen years ago. Also I reach Monroe County, Orleans County, Wayne County and others round about, when I can get the time, as you will notice by my report sheets.

"My Best Year"

"This has been my best year in Rochester. Not only because of the increase in circulation of Bibles, Testaments, and portions, but also because of the wide interest of the people in the work.

"Just now I am kept busy with work of the daily religious schools here. All our churches here are open daily for religious instruction, with paid teachers in attendance. And we find still the great lack of Bibles. The children want a Bible of their own, and the parents are either too poor or not willing to pay for one; and, of course, they come to the American Bible Society. And, praise the dear Lord, He is still raising up friends for the work. I have promised to put in from 300 to 500 Bibles, free of charge, for this work during the next two months, and I am promised the money for them, and more if needed, by friends of the Bible.

"Also, there is a needed work going on among the American Indians. The Rev. Mr. Owl is in charge of this work. He is an Indian himself and an honor student of our Rochester University. They have a little church there, with about seventy-five people, old and young, in attendance. I have supplied the Rev. Mr. Owl with Bibles and Testaments for that work, which also were paid for by a friend of the work. How my soul cries out for these people, and how I praise God for the work we are doing in giving them the gospel.

Glad Incidents

"Among the glad incidents of the year I will recite a few:

"A few nights before Christmas, a gentleman called at my home for a Teacher's Bible, and this was his own story:

"'Mr. Findlay, you do not know me, but I know you and shall never forget you. Four years ago, you spoke in — Church on the power of the gospel. A year before I had been married to one of Rochester's fine young Christian women. I had been a drinker on the sly. After our marriage things grew worse. I had our cellar filled with hootch with a real kick. I was breaking my young wife's heart, and also the heart of her mother. As they heard that you were to preach that night, both wife and mother so arranged that at last they persuaded me to attend.

"'That night something happened. After leaving the church, I asked my mother-in-law to come home with us. I went down to the cellar and brought up every jug that was there. My wife began crying, thinking I had gone crazy. Every drop was poured in the sink. When my mother-in-law realized what I had done, she asked

my reason. I said, "I shall never need it again." Nor have I tasted a drop.

"My mother-in-law then advised me to leave the employment I was then engaged in, as it was full of temptations. She had a large bakery in the city, and invited me to start there next morning. That was four years ago. I am now manager of that concern, and, for these four years, have had a happy home and am now a teacher of a splendid Sunday-school class of young men. I want a good Teacher's Bible.' Was I not glad to supply it!

"The Rev. G. Hondelink, pastor of the First Reformed Church, on the last night of the year showed to his congregation one of our large-print, inexpensive family Bibles, and holding it up, said: 'Here is a Bible that the American Bible Society is offering to you for \$1.35. How many of you will resolve from to-night that you will once again start the family altar?' To this appeal sixteen people responded. Subsequently altogether forty of these Bibles were put in as many homes where family prayers were revived.

"The Federation of Churches of Rochester, under whose auspices the religious training in the churches of Rochester has been conducted by paid teachers, has used for this work hundreds of our 5c Testaments.

"One of our leading Presbyterian ministers was asked to speak in a Colored Presbyterian church in this city. As it was a week night and an informal service, he did not wish to go up into the pulpit, so asked the pastor for a small Bible. None was available in the church! He recommended that the pastor immediately get in touch with the 'Bible Man.' The pastor came to me and, through help of others, there are now 40 Bibles and 100 Testaments in the church, and the pastor is giving Bible readings.

Ninety-three, But Still at It

"One of my warmest friends and frequent donors is the oldest living dentist in New York State, still in practice at ninety-three years of age. A few years ago, I needed and received his professional attention. After he had done his extracting and I left his chair, I asked him if he knew where he was going, and whether he had his book of directions. He exclaimed over my speaking to him on religious subjects with my mouth still sore, but said he had no use for a Bible. I talked to him. He would not listen. I left. Three hours later he was in my house asking for a Bible. He has since joined the church and been a prize winner for regular attendance each Sunday at the church and Men's Bible Class, and now helps pay for Bibles I give to those in need.

"Thirteen years ago, I was asked to go out and speak in a Congregational church in the outskirts of the city. The superintendent of the Sunday school was one of Rochester's bankers. He found

that there were not in that church or Sunday school any Bibles, barring two dated 1861. After my address, 100 Bibles were put in that church and Sunday school. Many boys and girls then received the first Bible that they had ever possessed.

"These boys and girls now are young men and women. A group of the girls have engaged in real Christian work since then. For the past three years they have been paying for, and distributing, from three to five thousand Gospels every year through me.

A Very Generous Ally

"One of the young ladies, whose father and mother have since died, this past year presented me with \$1,000 to help distribute the Scriptures where needed, in gratitude for what was done for her so many years ago. With that thousand dollars, Bibles were given free for the Blind and the Sonyea Epileptic Home; for prisoners at the Auburn prison, and the Home of Industry. Bibles were placed also in each room of the rescue mission, Rochester, and in the three Italian churches—the Methodist, the Pentacostal, and the Presbyterian. Bibles and Testaments were also put in the Trinity Colored Presbyterian Church, and over 10,000 Gospels have been supplied to other charitable and missionary organizations."

Mr. Findlay's report is accompanied by a number of grateful letters for Scriptures supplied largely through the \$1,000 gift, just mentioned, made by Miss Catherine Randall.

One is from the Institute for the Blind at Rochester for ten New Testaments in Braille. As each Testament consists of five volumes, this meant fifty great volumes of embossed Scriptures! Another is from the chaplain of the State Agricultural and Industrial School at Industry, N. Y., who wrote:

"I beg to advise you that the hundred Testaments and the twenty-five large Bibles were received to-day. Personally, and in behalf of the boys, I beg to thank you and assure you that they are most fully appreciated. It is amazing how anxious the boys are to get the Testaments, and how many of them read and study them. The illustrated ones are eagerly sought after. As you suggest, I shall write a letter of thanks to Miss Randall and shall invite her out to see the boys."

A third letter is from the chaplain of the Auburn State Prison, an acknowledgment for one shipment of 150 Bibles and Testaments.

The chaplain at Craig Colony, maintained for epileptics by the state of New York, writes with especial appreciation:

"Recently two large boxes of Bibles were sent to me by express from New York City. I have as yet no definite knowledge as to the donors; but I take it that it was the 'two hundred more Bibles' that you recently wrote me about. They are splendid Bibles in every way. How can I ever thank you, and all the others assisting you, for this splendid act of Christian love? Truly, the love of Jesus is

still operative in the hearts of many, many of God's people everywhere! The gift of these Bibles has touched my heart greatly, as well as that of many others to whom I have related all the facts. It would do you a great deal of good, if you could realize how these dear unfortunate people do love and enjoy their Bibles.

"I wrote to Miss Randall, as per your request, but would be pleased if you would send this letter on to her."

Mr. Findlay's Monthly Records

The monthly circulation by Mr. Findlay, shown in the tabular form below, is a good record. All the books here listed have been paid for, and he still has some of the \$1,000.

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Cash
January	108	149	541	\$162.90
February	177	637	737	225.94
March	280	778	7,874	553.06
April	75	136	5,370	140.00
May	105	159	492	170.00
June	86	152	569	155.31
July	64	133	698	102.26
August	76	181	631	103.00
September	408	212	645	401.34
October	651	473	5,300	612.59
November	279	282	2,600	356.09
December	290	320	1,169	504.96
Total	2,599	3,612	26,626	\$3,487.45

Facts and Figures

There have been 2 employed workers, 26 correspondents and 8 voluntary workers on our regular list. But the number of voluntary workers has been much larger in fact. Many of them only come in occasionally, and these are not listed.

Circulation

The circulation for the year by those working directly with this Agency was 22,155 Bibles, 39,850 Testaments, 170,833 portions, or a total of 232,838 volumes. Any comparison with previous years should have in mind that the very considerable demand for Scriptures from northern New Jersey, which had been handled by the Eastern Agency salesroom at the Bible House during recent years, has been handled by the Atlantic Agency in 1926. There was no special campaign for the circulation of the penny portions during 1926 as there had been in the two previous years, and the circulation of portions was considerably less than the record of the preceding year, which was 268,452. The circulation of Bibles fell below that of the year before by about 2,400 volumes; in Testaments, however, there was a marked increase from 17,112 in 1925, to 39,850 in 1926. Probably the introduction of the 5-cent Testament largely accounts for this more than double increase.

Languages

Scriptures have gone out in 49 languages and 5 systems for the

blind in this Agency during 1926. A thoughtful perusal of the list will bring its own comment.

Albanian	Esthonian	Norwegian	Turkish
Arabic	Finnish	Malay	Ukrainian
Armenian	Flemish	Polish	Urdu
Armeno-Turkish	French	Portuguese	Welsh
Braid Scot	Gaelic	Quechua	Yiddish
Bulgarian	Greek	Roumanian	
Chinese:	Hawaiian Islands	Russian	<i>For the Blind:</i>
Wenli	Hebrew	Ruthenian	
Mandarin	Hungarian	Serbian	New York Point
Cantonese	Irish	Slavic	Revised Braille
Croatian	Italian	Slovak	Grade 1½
Czechoslovakian	Japanese	Slovenian	Moon
Danish	Latin	Spanish	American Braille
Dutch	Lettish	Swedish	English Braille
Esperanto	Lithuanian	Syriac	

Conclusion

While this is a record of the work of one year, it closes with the happy assurance that the work of the Scriptures so distributed in many languages and in generous numbers will go on for many days and months and years—yes, and lives.

ATLANTIC AGENCY

The Atlantic Agency was established in 1910, and includes the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 281,611 volumes. This makes a total circulation, since the Agency was established, of 3,364,642 volumes. Thirty-three persons have been employed in the distribution during 1926, 13 volunteers helping. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Frank P. Parkin, D.D., Bible House, 701 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.



ENTERTAINED by the oldest Bible Society in America,—the Pennsylvania,—the 110th Annual Meeting of the American Bible Society was fittingly held at Philadelphia, marking the Sesquicentennial year of our nation. It was an inspiring and happy occasion of which appreciative mention is made in this report. But the report also has to record with regret the necessary abandonment of the Society's plans for participation in the Sesquicentennial Exhibition. The transfer of Delaware in 1925 to the National Capital Agency has not diminished the work accomplished by the Atlantic Agency. The circulation for the smaller area was an increase of ten per cent over that of the previous year in the larger area; and the Scriptures were supplied in six more languages and systems for the blind,—the total being now 66. The value and service of the penny portions are illustrated in the report, which also shows the value of veteran workers in whom this Agency is fortunate. Nor are the veterans all individuals. The seven auxiliary societies in New Jersey have all been functioning for three-quarters of a century. An unusual condition exists in this state where the Pennsylvania Bible Society is the sole auxiliary to the American Bible Society, all the local Bible societies being auxiliary to the Pennsylvania Society. Historical precedents and practices are naturally powerful in this Agency.

January 1, 1926, here in Philadelphia was ushered in with the ringing of the Old Liberty Bell in Independence Hall, which is only

two squares distant from the headquarters of the Atlantic Agency. This Agency occupies the building owned by the Pennsylvania Bible Society. Because of the cracked condition of the Liberty Bell, it was tapped, not tolled, by the wife of Mayor Kendrick. Over the radio, the number 1-9-2-6 was sent to all parts of our land, indicating the beginning of the Sesquicentennial year, in connection with which a great exposition had been planned, opening on the last of May and extending to the close of November.

The American Bible Society had been planning for many months to make an exhibit of its various publications and of its world-wide operations in connection with the Sesquicentennial. In opposition, however, to the wishes of the state officials, and against the repeated protests of many of the leading religious denominations of the city, state and nation, the exposition was opened on the Sabbath Day, and various prize fight contests were held in the stadium during the progress of the exposition. After a thorough consideration of the entire matter and acting in conjunction with many other religious bodies, it seemed to the Board of Managers to be the wisest course to cancel all arrangements made for our own exhibit. The same decision was made by many other religious organizations.

A Special Sesqui Edition

A special Sesquicentennial edition of the penny portions, of both the Old and New Testaments, had been prepared for free distribution. This edition, however, was in no sense wasted; for it was sent to the Home Agencies in varied quantities, and special efforts were successfully made to distribute its share within the bounds of the Atlantic Agency. One of our colporteurs distributed many thousands of copies outside of the gates of the Exposition, and special grants were made to churches, county fairs, and other public gatherings.

Anniversary of the American Bible Society

One of the most important events of the year 1926 was the one hundred and tenth anniversary of the American Bible Society which was held in the city of Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Bible Society gave a very hearty and unanimous invitation for this anniversary to be held in our city. The Secretaries of the various Home Agencies of the country held their annual meeting in the Bible House of the Maryland Bible Society, of Baltimore, Maryland, May 8 to 12, 1926. The following day, Thursday, May 13, the one hundred and tenth anniversary was held in the historic Christ Church on Second above Market Streets, Philadelphia. This church, as to its organization, dates from the year 1695, and during the days of the American Revolution it occupied an historic place in the annals of our nation. Through the courtesy of its present rector, the Rev. Dr. Louis C. Washburn, the church was placed at our disposal. On the morning of that date, Ascension Day, the Rev. Dr. William I. Haven, our

senior Secretary, preached in the historic pulpit. At the close of the services, an opportunity was given the entire company to examine the many historic relics, after which luncheon was served in the church house as guests of the Pennsylvania Bible Society. After the transaction of the business of the American Bible Society, the anniversary sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Edward Yates Hill, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. His subject was "The Bible in Modern Life." This sermon was later published in the August number of the *Bible Society Record*.

County Fairs

Mrs. Norman S. Bowers, representing a special exhibit held at the Mifflin County Fair, writing from Lewiston, Pa., on October 13, sent the following letter of appreciation:

"The materials you sent were all received and put to the best of use. The Gospels would not have lasted half through the fair, had we given them to all the kiddies who wanted them. We tried to be as discreet as possible, thinking they were our best point of contact with older boys and men. With each Gospel we gave, we had a leaflet on Sabbath observance.

"It was most gratifying to have some of the rough-looking carnival people who had stands at the fair come for Gospels and other reading we had. A couple of our ladies went the rounds of the concessions and race-horse stables and distributed the Gospels and Scriptural coins. We had a number come in and inform us "they were not on hand when their chum got his, and could they have the same things." We had about 8,000 packets of leaflets. Again thanking you for your interest in our project, and trusting much seed has fallen on good ground, bringing forth fruit for your Master, I am"

Increased Circulation

We are glad to report that notwithstanding the state of Delaware having been recently taken from the Atlantic Agency to form a part of the newly organized National Capital Agency, our circulation for 1926 amounted to 40,351 Bibles, 37,900 Testaments, and 203,360 portions, making a total circulation of 281,611 volumes,—being an increase over the year 1925 of 23,042 volumes. This increase, however, is mainly in portions.

Varied Languages

As in former years, we have had many calls for the Scriptures in the many different languages which are spoken by the various foreign nationalities that constitute a part of our great cosmopolitan population. In addition to the demand for these foreign languages spoken within our own borders, there are many benevolent organizations and individuals who are constantly engaged in sending the Scriptures through our office to Indian tribes and to various missionary organizations in different parts of the world. This year, one

or two new languages appear in our list. One of these is in the Bulu tongue, which is one of the new translations for Africa. It is interesting to know that many scholars and linguists connected with some of the leading colleges in Pennsylvania and New Jersey are among the very first to secure copies of these new translations. Included in our list are 63 languages, and in addition 4 different systems of type for the blind were circulated among those who unfortunately have been deprived of their sight. Letters of appreciation from those who have been thus benefited are among the compensations which come to all who are engaged in this form of Bible distribution. Following is the list of languages:

Albanian	Czechoslovakian	Italian	Slavic
Arabic	Dakota	Japanese	Slovak
Arapahoe	Danish	Latin	Slovenian
Armenian, Ancient	Dutch	Lettish	Spanish
Armenian, Modern	English	Lithuanian	Swedish
Armeno-Turkish	Esperanto	Muskogee	Swedish, Revised
Bohemian	Esthonian	Navaho	Syriac, Ancient
Bohemian-Slovak	Finnish, Gothic	Norwegian	Syriac, Modern
Bulgarian	Finnish, Roman	Norwegian, Roman	Turkish
Bulu	Flemish	Polish	Urdu
Cherokee	French	Portuguese	Welsh
Chinese:	Gaelic	Quechua	Yiddish
Canton	German	Roumanian	Blind:
Mandarin	Greek, Ancient	Russian	American Braille
Easy Wenli	Greek, Modern	Ruthenian	English Braille
Choctaw	Hebrew	Seneca	Line Letter
Croatian	Hungarian	Serbian	Moon System

Work among the Public Schools

For the second year in succession, we are glad to report a continuation of the work of Bible distribution in various portions of the state of Pennsylvania. The Rev. James S. McCreary and Mr. Richard Foelster have been engaged in a systematic canvass of many of the public schools of the state in the sale of Scripture Text Mot-toes and other religious literature. As a part of their plan they offer prizes of various editions of our clothbound Bibles, of the Testaments, and individual portions of the Bible. They have also donated many volumes to the worthy poor. Their sales throughout the Keystone State have been most encouraging, and, indirectly, they have greatly helped the circulation of our own publications.

Our Wilkes-Barre Agency

The only death which we have to report among those who have been in our regular employment as colporteurs during the past year is that of Mr. Melbourne E. Stone, who died at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on August 30. For over thirteen years he had been employed by the Atlantic Agency to work in connection with the Luzerne County Bible Society. For twenty-seven years, Mr. Stone had been a chaplain at the county jail, and through his long connection with that institution and as our Bible representative throughout the county, he had earned the love and respect of the entire community. His devoted wife, Mrs. Mary M. Stone, who had been a faithful coworker

with him, has continued to carry on the work. Her report of the work which she and her husband had done for the year 1926 is herewith given:

"Thirteen years ago, on July 1, Mr. Stone and I were chosen and employed by the Atlantic Agency,—a branch of the American Bible Society,—to distribute through Luzerne County the Holy Scriptures by sales and by donations where needed, and to secure contributions to help carry on the work. Working together, we were very happy, and our work was successful. Through failing strength, Mr. Stone was no longer able to do his accustomed share of the work, which I very gladly took upon myself, while ministering to his increasing needs—with no decrease either in the sales of books or in contributions. 'He kept the faith' and finished his work, and, on August 30, the dear Lord released him from his sufferings and took him to himself.

The world is full of sighs,
Full of sad and weeping eyes.
We must help the fallen rise,
While the days are going by.

"So I am glad to be permitted to go on with this blessed Bible work, by which my mind and time are occupied, and in helping others, I myself am helped.

"In compiling the work for the year, I find we sold 460 more copies of the Scriptures than in the year before, and have an increase in contributions.

Statistical Report

Bibles sold	472	Bibles donated	6
Testaments sold	595	Testaments donated	126
Portions sold	2,407	Portions donated	656
Total sold	3,474	Total donated	788
Total circulated in the year			4,262
Total in thirteen years and six months			61,961
Contributions for the year			\$1,242.68
Total contributions			\$15,272.64

"A large amount of money is required to translate, print, and circulate the Scriptures in the languages and styles to meet the needs of the people of the world. Being sold without profit and many must be donated, so that 42 cents of every dollar used must come from those who believe in the Bible.

"It cost William Tyndale his life to translate the Bible in our language. What will you give to have it translated in the languages of other people, that they, too, may search the Scriptures and find rest unto their souls?"

Scranton Depository

The Rev. Dr. David Jones, who is in charge of our depository at Scranton, has given a good account of his stewardship. His long residence as a pastor in this anthracite section has well qualified him to maintain a deep interest in the circulation of the Scriptures. He writes as follows:

"I am a novice at the business of giving impressions and experiences of my stewardship as the representative of this branch of the American Bible Society. I came to this work from the active ministry of the Congregational Church after being fully engaged as pastor of three churches for forty years. I have followed in the train of worthy, faithful, devoted veterans, my immediate predecessor being the Rev. H. G. Harned, who, after having served this local Agency upwards of twenty-six years, at the ripe age of eighty-five and as the result of impaired health and declining strength, desired to be relieved. The local Society with your cooperation as the Secretary of the Atlantic Agency met his wishes and acknowledged gratefully his loyalty to his trust, and appointed your servant as his successor July 1, 1924.

"Most willingly do I confess that others have labored diligently for seventy-one years in this locality, and have broken the fallow ground and have reaped a harvest that is only an earnest of a much richer and larger one, if we faint not. This field in the heart of the anthracite region gets riper and whiter for the harvest from day to day. I have had a wider and a clearer vision from various angles of the desire of people to become acquainted with the Word of Life, than it was possible for me in my active ministry.

"Occasionally it is human for a minister and pastor to feel that he is left alone to do the work, like Elijah of old, and in moments of despondency is tempted to run away and quit; while the Lord at the same time, unawares to him, has thousands endeavoring to do their bit for the extension of his kingdom upon earth. In our narrow, contracted outlook we miss the various agencies that are doing God's will. There are many encouraging signs, in these years of apathy in religious matters, that the Word of God is not to return to him void, but it shall accomplish that which he hath pleased and shall prosper in the thing whereto he hath sent it. Without trespassing on space that belongs to some one else in entering into details, I feel that the awakening, the hunger and thirst felt among people from countries in which the Bible is not distributed, read nor studied as it should be, is a splendid omen of the future and augurs well as to the general desire of people to become familiar with the contents of this precious book. There are groups of men and women in towns and villages in these valleys who are congregating in their homes to read the Bible, and are forming missions and hiring halls and building churches, of which there are many established in the past six or eight years. These are virtually foreign mission stations in our homeland. The adherents of these missions come to this depository and others, and are handling the 'Word as a pearl of great price,' and are, according to their ability, purchasing the best editions that are published. These facts and many others demonstrate the importance of the Bible Society to supply the need of these people and of maintaining such by our prayers and the Christian spirit of service.

"Since I have been engaged in this work, I have had several illustrations of the joy of service and the desire that people have to do all they can, to share with others the knowledge they have of God's love and plan of redemption as revealed to them in the Bible.

"One morning as I sat in the office, a sister came in, neatly but modestly dressed, as if she had come in hurriedly on an errand. Her accent betrayed her to be one of those whom we call foreigners. She told me she had a certain sum of money for which she wanted me to give for it all I could of the Gospels in Italian and Polish and a few copies of the Psalms in English. In taking a second look at her, I apologized for asking her what she wanted them for. She told me that she was visiting occasionally our jail, and that she distributed these portions among the people she found there. The majority of the inmates would accept any portion offered them, but that the favorite and indeed the only portion the Jew would accept was the Psalms.

"The conversation became interesting, and I grew bolder in my inquiries. I asked her if she spent her own money in buying these portions, and she answered instantly without hesitation, that a wealthy lady from the hill section of our city was furnishing the funds. At once it dawned on me that this lady ordinarily dressed was giving her time to do service and visiting places that the other sister could not afford to do; while the other in giving of her wealth to buy these portions was doing a great service to mankind. So that the rich and the poor are cooperating to do God's will in the distribution of the Bible—one giving riches, the other giving time and service.

"I received a letter one morning by mail and, opening it, found no writing inside, but a small piece of yellow paper—a portion of a handbill used in the country to advertise auctions that take place periodically in agricultural districts. Folded in this piece of paper was a five-dollar bill. I turned it over and over in an attempt to discover some writing or address that I might use to acknowledge the giver, but I failed to find anything save these words written with a lead pencil, 'A Friend of God.' In looking minutely on the envelope, I found printed thereon 'Locust Farm,' but the name of the place was intentionally concealed by heavy marking of black ink. My conscience would not allow me to rest nor to accept the gift for this blessed work without making an extra effort to find the sender and thank him for his gift. I filled a blank receipt—'Received from a Friend of God Five Dollars (\$5.00) for the Lackawanna Bible Society'—and sent it almost at random to a place that I had tried to decipher; but all was in vain, because in a number of days the letter came back unclaimed and for better address. Evidently this 'Friend of God' is also a friend of his Word and carries out literally the injunction in the Master's great sermon (Matt. 6:1:4). His contribution for the Bible work was given in secret, and we have strong faith in the promise 'that thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward

thee openly.' The envelope and the yellow paper are still on this desk, while the dollars have been sent out to work in the channels ordained by the American Bible Society."

Pittsburgh Depository

The Rev. J. Walker Miller, whose health a few years ago was seriously imperiled, has apparently entirely recovered and has continued with his usual diligence and good judgment and great consecration to supervise our work in this entire western portion of our state. He says:

"Since last Summer drives to raise money for local causes have been continuous. The Theological Seminary, the Medical Center, the Cathedral of Learning, the Pension Fund, the Y.M.C.A., and the Y.W.C.A. have been making very persistent appeals to the people. These interfere very seriously with our collections. We are making liberal donations every month to chaplains and visitors in the various hospitals of the community, and have responded to calls from the Y.M.C.A. and from missions, Sunday schools and churches. We have made liberal grants also to rescue mission workers whose headquarters are in the Hotel Yoder, where meetings are held daily attended by hundreds of men very much in need of such influences. Many of our grants of Scriptures have been circulated among these men."

Mr. John Gay, Our Veteran Colporteur

This experienced colporteur, who some time since passed his twenty-fifth anniversary in our service, still continues to do effective service, especially among the foreign-speaking workers in the great industrial section of Pittsburgh and vicinity. His monthly reports contain many items which portray very clearly both the encouragements and the discouragements that he encounters. A few only of these we give in his own words:

"The winter season among these foreigners whom I visit is not the best time for me to do my work. Many doors are closed, and as there are many agents and beggars, frequently the people will not open their homes to me. However, I am welcomed in many houses as the 'Bible man.' One day I found a sick man in bed. Trying to comfort him, I read the fourteenth chapter of John, and he bought that Bible from me. When I called the next time, I learned he had died. His widow said she had given the book away to friends, but bought another Bible and promised to read it daily.

"I find much drunkenness among the people. The Catholic Church, to which most of these people belong, seems to have little influence on their lives. They seem to think the Bible is not for them. When I can read some suitable portions to them, they show a growing interest, and then I can get them to buy a Bible or Testament or at least leave a Gospel with them. My later visits to these people are

easier. Instead of shutting the door in my face, they frequently welcome me. This cheers my heart and enables me to stand the insults we from time to time receive.

"One day last April, I went to a large poolroom in Carson, which was filled with men. I showed them my Bibles; but they started to laugh and to joke, and told me to leave them alone. The proprietor, however, heard me read a few words from the Scriptures and purchased a copy, and then others took portions; so that my visit was not in vain.

"In my travels around lately, I met a converted Croatian, who was very sick in a hospital. I gave him a Bible. On his recovery, he began to visit his countrymen and to sell them the Scriptures. He came to our store in Pittsburgh and bought several Bibles and sent them to friends in his native land across the sea. We never know when and where the seed may spring up.

"During the summer months I can get into the homes of the people or can talk with them on their steps or in the parks; but the results, God alone knows. In Homestead I distributed many Bibles and Testaments, mostly among the colored people who have come North in recent years to work in the steel mills. I like to work among the negroes. They treat the Bible differently from the foreign-born Catholics.

"In West McKeesport, there lives a man to whom I sold a Bible last year. Now the man is doing a real missionary work among his fellow-workmen. In his house he removed a wall and made a church of it for Sunday school and for a Sunday morning service. May God bless his efforts. I am now on my twenty-seventh year as a colporteur. I know not how much longer I can work, but, as long as I can, I want to distribute God's Holy Book."

Mr. A. B. Traina

During the year 1926, Mr. A. B. Traina divided his time between the Eastern Agency and the Atlantic Agency. Living in Franklinville, New Jersey, and possessing a Ford car, he has been especially well equipped to carry on his work. He is a young Italian with a thorough mastery of the English language, and full of energy and initiative. His labors have been mainly, but not exclusively, confined to the Italian population. In the coming year, he will give his entire time to the Atlantic Agency and will work among all classes of people. He believes in adhering to some of the earlier methods of colporteurs, and seeks to do personal Christian work in connection with the circulation of the Scriptures. His report is given here in part only.

"Another twelvemonth is past, and it seems as yesterday. The work is so interesting that time flies before one can realize it. I have been working in north and south Jersey, spending some time in Newark among the colored people and the Italians and other for-

eign nationalities, leaving in almost every home a copy of the Scriptures — Bible, Testament, or portion.

Reaching a Mohammedan

"While working in Newark the following incidents occurred: I went in the home of a colored man, who greeted me very gruffly. When I told him I was the Bible man, he grew very indignant and growled at me like an animal, saying that I and all who were distributing Christian literature are doing so to keep the people in ignorance; and especially is this true, he said, among those that are trying to bring religion to his—the colored race. He said the white people are commercializing the negro, and to do this successfully, they kept them in superstitious ignorance, and by these means keep them in slavery. Then I asked him to let me explain, and finally he did. I told him that the religion of Christ was the greatest emancipating creed that ever appeared on this earth. It sets all men free and enslaves none. I told him how Jesus Christ died to give liberty to those in captivity of Satan, and showed him how Christianity animated the North to give of their lives to set the negro free. None other than the religion of Jesus Christ could have done that. Then he said he was a Mohammedan; so that gave me another opportunity to get at him. I pointed out how Mohammedanism was a selfish religion—one that tends to selfish desires and fleshly gratifications and shuts out love for others; but the Christians were always ready to sacrifice for others, even for their enemies. I cited several incidents of personal observation. After that he softened down a little, and I opened the Scriptures, and before I left, he took a Bible from me. Praise God!

Courtesy and Persistence Win

"Another time, in Newark, a woman greeted me with curses. I responded with 'God loves you, lady, and this book tells you about it,' and finally she asked me to come in; I prayed with her, and she took a Testament. Another time, a woman, who loved the Lord and was endeavoring to bring others to Jesus, had only a few pages of an old Bible. She said she had long wanted a Bible, but never had the money to buy one; so I showed her one of our 70-cent Bibles, and she said that the Lord had sent me to her. She took the Bible, and I rejoiced greatly.

"In south Jersey, I went into a home where a man under the influence of drink began to argue about the Bible. I told him that the Bible was not a book to argue about, but a book to live by; a book that would give him the satisfaction that drink could not give. It was the only book that could help a man get rid of all his bad habits, because they are the words of Jesus, who said, 'The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life.' After a little while, he took the Bible and promised not to drink any more. Many of the

Italians that I meet do not read English, so I sell them Scriptures for the children. The penny Gospels, I think, are the greatest blessing that can ever come to men; for when I cannot sell a Bible or Testament, I can always leave a Gospel.

Lifting Burdens

"While going from Newark to Trenton, a young man signaled me to give him a lift. I stopped to pick him up and, after riding a few minutes, I asked him where he was going. He said to Philadelphia in search of work. He had left his mother's home and had been roaming ever since. Then I started to speak to him about Jesus Christ and the love of God for the wayward prodigal. He broke down and cried, and I prayed with him and gave him a Testament. He promised there and then to go back home to his mother and read the Testament.

"Out of about twenty that I have picked up the same way, nine have given their hearts to the Lord, and six have paid for their own Testaments. While crossing from Trenton to Yardley, I stopped to pick up an Italian man with a burden. He thanked me and said his bundle was pretty heavy, and it was very kind of me to help him to rest. Then I told him about Matthew 11:28, 29, 30, Psalms 55:22, and 1 Peter 5:7. He said he had never heard of these things, and asked me where I got them. So, stopping the car, I pulled up to the curb and took an Italian Bible and showed him from the Bible. Then he asked me if he could get such a book. I said, 'Sure, you can buy this book for 64 cents,' and he took it. In Camden I met a colored man who had not read the Bible for three years, because his Bible was in such small print that he could not see it. I showed him one of our large-type Bibles, and he called it a godsend.

"Colporteur work is full of wonderful experiences. Such signs as 'Look out for dogs' do not stop the colporteur from entering the gates and knocking at the doors, thinking not of danger, but of souls that may be in darkness. The work of distributing the Scriptures is getting more difficult as a whole. It seems that this generation is going mad after what is termed snappy stories, that are short and to the point and are full of pictures so as to satisfy the eye. But here and there we are sowing the Word, with the promise that it shall not return void. May God send more workers in this vineyard, to reach those not reached by the organized church. Pray for a continued blessing on this work."

Rev. Joseph B. Thomas

During the past year, we have again had the services, for a part of his time only, of the Rev. Joseph B. Thomas, a Baptist pastor at Glenmoore Pa., near Pottstown. With the aid of his own auto, he has, for a portion of the year, given one day a week to a systematic canvass of the territory in his own county and in some of the ad-

joining territory. The "Bible League Campaign," which he organized, has accomplished much of good, and he has succeeded in arousing considerable interest in the campaign for a Bible in every home that he has been enabled to visit.

County Bible Societies

Many of these societies still exist within the two states of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In New Jersey, the Belvidere, the Hunterdon County, the Monmouth County, the Somerset County, the Sussex County, and the Bergen County Bible Societies maintain more or less vigorous organizations, and many of their anniversaries are occasions of unusual interest with programs that are instructive and enterprising. In Pennsylvania, the Luzerne County Bible Society, with headquarters at Wilkes-Barre, the Lackawanna County Bible Society with headquarters at Scranton, and the Young Men's Bible Society of Allegheny County, with headquarters at Pittsburgh, have the advantage of having our own representative in active charge of their management. Others in the state of Pennsylvania are the Newville Bible Society, the Milton Bible Society, the Gettysburg Women's Bible Society, and the New Alexandria Bible Society, together with the Ladies' Bible Society and Morrellville Auxiliary at Johnstown, all of which still continue their existence.

At Philadelphia, the Women's Bible Society has entered upon the hundred and twelfth year of its existence. The days of their usefulness have not yet disappeared; and it is hoped that new impetus may be given to their work in the new year that has just begun.

Penny Portions

There has been an increased demand, during the year, for the various penny portions, both of the Old and the New Testaments and also in the few foreign languages which are now included in the list of penny portions. As we were closing the year 1926, the first installment of orders for the Gospel of Luke and for the Book of Acts had begun to arrive. This is a part of the nation-wide plan to have the churches of all denominations secure the reading of the Book of Luke, a chapter daily, during the month of January, and the Book of Acts, with its 28 chapters, one chapter for each of the twenty-eight days in the month of February.

NATIONAL CAPITAL AGENCY

The National Capital Agency was established in January, 1925, and includes the states of Maryland and Delaware, and the District of Columbia. The circulation for its second year of work, ending December 31, 1926, was 78,598 volumes, an increase of 56,064, making a total circulation of 101,132 for its two years of service. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. James H. Hyatt, D.D., 716 Woodward Building, Washington, D. C.



WHILE the report recognizes the importance of the historic and national in its field, it also shows that the present day needs of modern life, with its peculiar conditions, are being met. It also reveals that the work is carried on with enthusiasm. The circulation has been more than trebled during the year. This, the newest, Agency is the first of the Home Agencies to entertain the Secretaries' Conference. The tribute to the value and uplift of such conferences speaks for itself. The Conference itself greatly enjoyed the well-known hospitality of Baltimore.

When asked if he had any farewell address to leave his children, John Jay, first Chief Justice of the United States, said:

"They Have the Bible"

Those of us who are the agents appointed to distribute this book take up the task each year, in the hope that no family or individual will ever be without a volume of this precious heritage that has come down through the ages as God's great guiding light for the children of men. More than ever there has come to me a larger consciousness of the importance of the stupendous task of distribution, and a great sense of responsibility with reference to the Word itself:

What a book! Vast and wide as the world, rooted in the abysses of creation, and towering up beyond the blue secrets of heaven—the whole drama of humanity is in this book.

The Word in Washington—the Capital

In this great world center, on beautiful avenues radiating in various directions from the United States Capitol, reside not only representatives from every state in the Union, but also distinguished representatives of other nations. Coincident with the task of taking the Word to the humble poor and the unfortunate of the city's institutions, are the problems of reaching the rich, attracting attention of

government employees, members of Congress, the representatives of the diplomatic corps, and attachés of the various legations.

The American Bible Society's mission is a world-wide mission, and it advocates the distribution of the whole Bible to the whole world. Here, at this strategic place in the District of Columbia, are representatives of all civilized peoples. It is our cherished hope to find in them not only a field of work, but in time a force of workers.

The National Capital Agency proposes to keep alive to its opportunities, and is seeking to make the cause it serves better known to every man, woman, and child living within its borders. It has been gratifying to receive inquiries from men associated with the United States Government with reference to Bible distribution. And we have calls for Scriptures to be placed in the hands of the men of the Army and Navy.

Schools and Colleges Supplied

We record with interest the fact that educational institutions are being supplied with Scriptures out of our stock. Students of the University of Maryland, at College Park, appointed a committee to visit our Washington office and purchase several hundred Testaments for the student body. The Washington Missionary College has purchased a number of foreign language Scriptures. Likewise the Seminary and Collegiate Institute of Washington has made this office its source of supply in various editions of the Bible.

The American Home Bible Institute, located in Washington, and the Community Bible Readers' League of this city have supplied their work with Scriptures from our salesroom.

It is also gratifying to note that the administration office of the public schools of Baltimore City reviewed several publications of Bibles submitted to them for selection, and that they chose the seventy-cent Brevier Bible of the American Bible Society as the one to be read in the opening exercises of the classes each morning.

Broadcasting Bible Society History

The radio audience of WCAO, Baltimore, Maryland, May 21, 1926, 8.15 p. m., heard the Agency Secretary give an account of the conference held at the Bible House in Baltimore, attended by Bible Society Secretaries who had come from all sections of this country to study the problems connected with the proposition of getting the widest possible circulation of the Scriptures throughout the United States. He said that the bulk of the volumes issued last year were distributed in foreign lands, — almost one million volumes issued in Japan and over four million in China, — and that the total issues of the Society in one hundred and ten years of service have been one hundred and seventy-four million, one hundred and twenty-one thousand, five hundred and ninety volumes.

Further the audience was told that the American Bible Society

was instituted in 1816 in the city of New York, having eminent men associated with it from the start. And since 1810 Bible Society work has been carried on in Baltimore, under the auspices of the Baltimore Bible Society.

Dr. McHenry, one of the presidents of this society, was a signer of the Constitution of the United States and Secretary of State in the administration of Washington and of Adams. In 1833, Honorable William Wirt was elected the first president of the Maryland Bible Society. He had been Attorney General of the United States in the administration of President James Monroe. He was also the biographer of Patrick Henry. This work under other auspices has been carried on in Washington for a period of almost one hundred years. The whole movement has been directed and sponsored by men of the highest type of American citizenship.

Methods of Bible Distribution in Maryland

If the dominating characteristic of the Bible cause in this state could be expressed in one word, that word would be "stability." Among the oldest of Protestant benevolences in the state, this work of distributing the Scriptures has gone on quietly and steadily year after year. From 1810 the Baltimore Bible Society with kindred other Bible societies carried on the work until 1833, when the Maryland Bible Society was organized.

The method of distribution in the past was what it now is—a system of colportage by which the Scriptures are carried to the people in villages, towns, and cities. In addition to this, however, there is a depository or Bible depot, at 9 East Franklin Street, Baltimore, and almost constantly deliveries of Scriptures are made through the mail in parcel post packages. Remote districts are reached with a Bible car—an automobile which is used to great advantage.

A Bible party crossing over seven mountains in western Maryland to reach Allegany County consisted of the Agency Secretary, his wife, and two colporteurs; one a student from Western Maryland College and the other a student from Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland. The trip afforded opportunity to touch places and persons who are not reached with the Word. We know of no better way to do this work.

Universal Bible Sunday

Special observance of Bible Sunday took place in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Atonement in Washington; in the Forest Park Presbyterian Church, Baltimore; the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hampstead, Maryland, and at each of these services the Agency Secretary addressed the congregation, referring especially to the world-wide scope of the activities of the American Bible Society. A growing interest is more and more manifest in this important day.

At a County Fair

At the urgent request of the Rev. S. J. Goode, president of the Montgomery County Auxiliary of the Maryland Bible Society, and Mrs. Henry J. Finley, a friend of the Bible cause, we had two representatives in charge of a Bible exhibit booth in the fair grounds of Rockville, Maryland. The literature of the Society was freely distributed, posters exhibited, and one thousand Gospels were distributed to those who from time to time gathered around the booth. The Bible stand afforded opportunity to the people from all sections of the county to purchase Scriptures in a variety of types, bindings, and languages.

The Word in a Woods Meeting

At Cooptown, Maryland, on August 5, people from all parts of the county assembled for the thirty-ninth annual woods meeting. In these years thousands have gathered in the old-time tabernacle situated in the delightful grove of this sparsely settled community. On this occasion, before an audience of at least six hundred men and women, the various organized agencies closely related to the church and its work had their representatives present. That of the American Bible Society was represented by the Secretary of the National Capital Agency, along with those of the Lord's Day Alliance, Morgan College, and the Anti-Saloon League. Large posters and several editions of the Bible were exhibited to show how the Book is published and distributed to the peoples of the earth. The story of translation was also touched upon. The people were surprised to learn that Scriptures are sold at such low prices by the American Bible Society. And when various pamphlets were distributed in each automobile as the people ate their lunch, they were again surprised to learn that this Society is a great missionary organization, sending the Scriptures to all parts of the United States and to almost every part of the known world. An improvised booth was set up in the afternoon on a stump of a tree, and our colporteur, who had accompanied the Secretary to this woods meeting, was kept busy selling the Scriptures to both old and young. It was interesting to observe the folk making their way to this booth and leaving with a copy of the Scriptures in one form or another.

City Missions and the Book

The Central Union Mission in Washington, D. C., downtown at Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, is the mission of the churches. It was founded, in 1884, by the Protestant churches of Washington. The entire building cost \$325,000 and has perhaps the finest city mission equipment in this country. It is one of the few pioneers among American missions. Mr. John S. Bennett is superintendent, and always is grateful to those who bring the Book to the mission for free distribution. In the month of September a spe-

cial distribution was made by this Agency, and friends from time to time have purchased from our depository Scriptures of various kinds to keep the mission supplied.

At the Christian Union Church, a mission in Baltimore, a Bible rally was held. A talk on "Sowing the Seed" was given. Vivid and lucid illustrations were used to show the effectiveness of Bible distribution in communities. At once the man in charge of this mission took one thousand Gospels of Matthew and succeeded in getting ten workers to obligate themselves to give these little volumes of Matthew to the unchurched. He then said that the whole eleven penny volumes must be given to the same people, until all had been reached with the Word as made up in the books of the New Testament. This plan we have suggested to those who desire to do Christian work in their own community. Inserts on the cover page of the penny portion has proved helpful to the pastor, enabling him to advertise the church services and at the same time to disseminate the Word to unchurched people.

Bible Cause in Baltimore

In 1814, the British were repulsed in their attack upon Baltimore. And it was during the bombardment of Fort McHenry, which defended the city, that the Star Spangled Banner was composed. The fort had been named for Dr. James McHenry, who had been in the Revolutionary War and in the Cabinet of Washington and of Adams. He was the second president of the Baltimore Bible Society. This historic background is another reason for the state being included in the National Capital Agency of the American Bible Society.

The population of this city is now estimated at 819,000. The foreign element is large. And the Maryland Bible Society, cooperating with this Agency, is functioning in this field day by day, sending its workers to all sections of the city with Scriptures and the foreign editions of the American Bible Society. In this city one colporteur visited 14,259 homes and 14,992 families. The Scriptures were distributed by colporteurs in English, Yiddish, Russian, Italian, and other foreign languages.

Service with the Scandinavians

A grant consisting of Bibles, Testaments, and portions was made to a group gathered in a Scandinavian mission. These were books in the languages of the Norwegians and Swedes. Not more than 900 Norwegians nor more than 700 Swedes can be found in the population of this city; yet, these nationalities are very interesting. At the close of the service, after the proposition was made to the effect that each endeavor to reach another with the Word, the agreement was made; and a special arrangement was also made to conduct a Bible mission at the Seaman's Union Bethel for seafaring men.

A Mission to the Jews

The work of the Rev. Aaron Judah Kliggerman, once of the Jewish faith and now a Christian, is commendable. In addition to the varied ministries connected with Emmanuel Neighborhood House, Presbyterian Mission in Baltimore, he is interested in distributing the Scriptures in Yiddish and English. His voice is frequently heard among groups of Jewish people, telling them that the Word of God is published in many languages. Through the summer months he held street meetings and there distributed the Scriptures to the Jewish people. The Scriptures in portions were given to those who manifested sincere interest. And requests have frequently followed for a Bible in Yiddish. And many have come to inquire more about the claims of Christ. Much impressed with his work, some friends purchased fifty Hebrew New Testaments to be used for free distribution among the Jewish people, and said they wanted to have a share in this splendid work.

At the Salem Hebrew Lutheran Mission in Baltimore, a good Christian service is being rendered under the supervision of the Rev. Henry Einspruch. Mr. Einspruch, a convert from the Jewish faith, is earnestly endeavoring to get his people interested in God's Word. He distributes quantities of Testaments in English and Yiddish. "The Most Noted Jewish Book in the World" is the title of a twenty-four page booklet of which he is the author. It is an attractive and fascinating presentation of the worth of the New Testament to the people of the world. A footnote on the last page is as follows: "The New Testament—the most noted Jewish book in the world—may be obtained through any Jewish or non-Jewish bookstore. The price per copy ranges from as low as ten cents, up to as high as ten dollars." Copies of this booklet are being sent to the most educated classes of Jewish people,—doctors, lawyers, and professional men.

Placing Penny Portions

"My Word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." This has come true in the experience of one of our colporteurs. In a village known as Gardenville he approached a group of laboring men seated on a pile of lumber, eating their lunch. He ventured to ask if any of them would like to buy a Bible. One in the company replied, "No, that book is not intended for white people." Of course he was joshing the colporteur. Before he left, the colporteur handed him a penny portion. The man accepted it, placing it in his pocket. Several months afterward our colporteur was canvassing on Light Street Wharf. A man came up to him and said, "Have you any Bibles?" Our colporteur immediately opened up his case of Scriptures. The man looked at a gilt-edge, divinity circuit Bible and said, "How much is that one?" "Two dollars and one-half," was the reply. He bought it, and then said to the colporteur, "You don't

remember me, do you? I'm the man, the carpenter, you gave the little book to out at Gardenville, and I want to pay you for it now; so here is the cent. We have been reading that book; and since we began we have joined the church, and our children go regularly every Sunday to the Sunday school." That seed sowing was not without result. And the credit is due Joseph Stasny, the faithful colporteur.

A Knock at the Door

It was the door of the salesroom, a few minutes after 5 p. m. There stood a young woman. She had been at the door of another store. And there she had been refused admission, because it was after the close of working hours for that store. When the clerk had told her that it was after closing time, she said, "But I want to get a Bible." He still insisted that the store was closed for business and that she could not be accommodated. Then she made her way to the salesroom from which thousands of Bibles are sold each year. The door was locked, but it was immediately opened to admit her. This was no house of merchandise, but a house for the exercise of the functions of the Christian ministry—a house of blessing.

Anxious to Get a Bible

A number of Bibles were taken off the shelves and shown to this woman, one of which she purchased. She seemed distressed and said, "Those people did not know they had refused to put a Bible in the hands of a man who would soon depart this life." Being questioned as to the cause of her distress, she said, "My husband is in the hospital, suffering from a cancer on his tongue. I was so anxious to get this Bible, and I didn't know what I would have done, if I could not have gotten it today; for I want to take it to him tonight. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your kindness and courtesy to me." She was a stranger in the city, having come from West Virginia. When asked if she and her husband were Christians, she replied, "No, but we have been praying together recently, since this trouble came upon us." A Presbyterian minister was immediately requested to visit this man, and through his ministry by the bedside of this sick man, the man was converted.

General Assembly

In the month of May the American Bible Society was on the map in the city of Baltimore in an unusual way. Two important events made the Society's work stand out in prominence. A church event of very great importance took place at the Lyric Hall in the gathering of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. This year's meeting marked the one hundred and thirty-eighth time in unbroken annual succession when this imposing Presbyterian legislature convened in May. The Assembly had not gathered at this city since 1873.

The membership of this present session consisted of one thousand persons, with an array of attending clerks and secretaries, all deeply interested in foreign missions, national missions, Christian education, the Bible cause, and other worthy subjects.

The Assembly was addressed by General Secretary Ryan from the Home Office of the American Bible Society, and the address was appreciated by the commissioners in attendance. Under the auspices of the National Capital Agency a booth exhibiting the many languages of the Bible was the means of attracting the attention of the crowds that visited the sessions of the Assembly. Souvenir editions of the Gospels were freely distributed. The address of Mr. Ryan and the booth were contributions to the progress of the cause we represent. Not only was interest in the Bible cause registered here, but it was carried away by those who came to Baltimore to attend this important church gathering and returned to their home states and cities with appreciation for all that had been accomplished.

Home Agency Secretaries' Conference

The days of this conference will long be remembered in Baltimore. The presence of the General Officers and the Secretaries who had come from all sections of the United States made a fine impression here. The fellowship was delightful. The churches were helped in the message they received. The cause was splendidly presented by the Secretaries in various pulpits. Baptists, Methodists, Friends, Congregationalists, Lutherans, and Presbyterians heard from the voices of these men the romantic story of Bible distribution. It is to be hoped that this conference will assemble within the bounds of the National Capital Agency again—if not in Baltimore, then in Washington.

A conference of this kind affords opportunity for the Secretaries to compare notes, to take counsel, to express to each other the initiative they have instituted, to tell of the needs of their areas, to catch some new vision of the work, and to receive renewed enthusiasm for the service they are rendering. Without these conferences, we would feel lonesome in our fields; for every one of them brings a new impetus to the Secretary's zeal, and the encouragement that vitalizes and quickens his activities.

Colporteurs in Cumberland

Cumberland is the second city in size in this state and is situated in a valley hemmed in on all sides by mountains. The city is thrifty. It is a center of industrial interest for western Maryland. Having some factories and a considerable number of railroad men within its bounds, it consequently suggested to our colporteurs that it would be well to begin where they could readily get in contact with these industrial workers. So the Sixth Ward was selected. Colporteurs Herbert E. Hudgins, Charles Powell, and one of our correspondents,

the Rev. Lynn Arbogast, gave themselves to the task of taking Bibles to the people of this mountain city. The results in the sale of the Scriptures, mostly Bibles, were more than pleasing. A canvass of house-to-house visitation was also made in Flintstone, a mountain village not far from Cumberland, by the circuit pastor, the Rev. Harry Craver, who placed a copy of Scripture in every home. At one time he was a regular colporteur in our territory; consequently he knew exactly how to do the work.

In the Diamond State

Not only because our Agency headquarters office is located in the national capital at Washington, but by reason of the fact that the Stars and Stripes were first unfurled in battle on land in the state of Delaware, in 1773, and because Delaware was the first of the thirteen original states to adopt the Federal Constitution in 1786, it is peculiarly appropriate for us to write about our activities in this area of the National Capital Agency. Because the state contains much in little, Delaware is called the Diamond State. In New Castle County, with our workers in the summer we had opportunity to see some things that were really worth while. In fact, some of the situations we have faced are but settings filled with scintillating beauty. The contacts our colporteurs have made in some communities are worthy of honorable mention.

"Bill Takes to Bible Reading"

Our colporteurs entered the plant of the American Fibre Company at Newark. Then and there the work of the American Bible Society was introduced, as it frequently is in shops, factories, and mills. A certain man affectionately called "Bill," who was not at all religiously inclined, was seen reading a penny portion,—the Gospel of John,—as he was eating his lunch. One of his comrades said to him, "Say, where on earth did you get that, Bill?" He answered, "Some fellow going through the mill gave it to me." Then he added, "You know, there's some mighty good stories in this book. I'm going to read some more in it, when I get home." This is one incident of many, which illustrates how the Bible Society is reaching the unchurched and the working men of industrial centers. The seed very frequently is sown in places where it takes root, and fine results follow.

Distribution in Delaware

While our work in Delaware this year was confined principally to Wilmington and Newark, we brought the Scriptures in contact with the minds of individuals who were approached on the roadways. Our cause also was advertised to a certain extent in the *Delaware Ledger*. In Wilmington, Colporteurs Powell and Hudgins canvassed sections of the city in which the poor reside, and the reports

of their work indicate that they came in contact with many persons who have but little conception of the real meaning of the Christian life. In distributing the Scriptures, they pointed out the true way of life to unfortunate and misled people.

Beside visiting every house in Newark, with the objective of placing a Bible in each home, our workers there also visited the employees of the fibre and paper mills, including those of the Continental Fibre Company, National Vulcanized Fibre Company, the Curtis Paper Mills, and the Baldwin Weaving Co. The weavers and the men of the mills received the books our workers had to offer; and, with but few exceptions, these men of the industries received the Scriptures with a genuine sense of gratitude.

Concluding this report, at the end of another year, the second in the history of this Agency, the Secretary shares the feeling of the one who wrote, in the realization of difficulties and problems unsolved,

If you sit down at the set of sun
And count the acts you have done,
And, counting, find
One self-denying act, one word
That eased the heart of him who heard,
One glance most kind,
That fell like sunshine where it went,
Then you may count that day well spent.

To the kind heavenly Father, who has been with us in the work, and to the Christ who has counseled us in perplexity, we give the praise for what has been accomplished. And with the hope for larger achievements we will begin with renewed zeal the work of another year.

SOUTH ATLANTIC AGENCY

The South Atlantic Agency was established in 1907, and includes the states of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 263,211 volumes, being an increase of 6,779 volumes. This brings the total circulation since the establishment of the Agency to 2,322,961 volumes. One hundred and eleven persons participated in the work during 1926—14 colporteurs and 57 correspondents, aided by 40 volunteers. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. M. B. Porter, 218 No. Adams Street, Richmond, Va.



IN two decades, this Agency, established in 1907, has accomplished the circulation of 2,322,961 volumes of Scripture. This, in itself, is a tribute to the value of Home Agencies. To an unusual extent, in this report, record of the past year is given in words of the workers on the field themselves. It gains in vividness and reality thereby. Reading between the lines, too, one catches glimpses of the heroic lives and beautiful devotion of many of the unnamed workers. And then one is led to recall that such work would be sadly curtailed, if not largely impossible, but for the unnamed donors whose gifts supply the indispensable volumes of Scripture. These the workers need to supply to the many they meet who so often are ignorant of, and without, the Bible. And so one rejoices in the gracious and quiet work of the Spirit of God stimulating workers, inspiring donors, and touching the hearts of the poor and faulty and needy and seeking.

This has been another year of encouraging progress and achievement in the life and work of the South Atlantic Agency of the American Bible Society. To God be the praise and the glory, for his wisdom has directed, his hand has guided, and his blessing has made possible these results by his use of the human agencies offered for his service.

We rejoice to report an increase in distribution over that of 1925, the total for the year being 263,361 volumes; so that in the matter of distribution 1926 thus becomes our banner year. This result, however, is not our satisfying goal, but the earnest of larger things we hope to accomplish during 1927.

We note also a growing interest in, and a greater loyalty to, our

work by the church and the public at large. This has been brought about, in some measure at least, by personal interviews, by correspondence, and by the discriminating use of our literature. The result has been that the Bible Society is being esteemed more highly by God's people, and its work regarded as indispensable in establishing the kingdom of God on earth.

We wish to place on record our appreciation of the faithful services of our office force. They have shown a fine spirit of loyalty and have served cheerfully and well. We have had during the year, as distributors of the Word, men and women, boys and girls, a fine group of Christian helpers. Each in his place of small or large service has worked for the Master. With rare exceptions, each has brought to the task high ideals, and a consecration that has achieved worthwhile results in the work. We should like to make personal mention of each of the helpers and his work; but this is perhaps not necessary, even if we had time for such a roll call. We mention a few, not by way of discrimination against others, but as types of all the rest.

Rev. G. W. Fitzwater

This brother has been with us so long, and has put so much of his life's faithful service into the work, that it is difficult for us to think of Bible distribution, especially in West Virginia, without thinking of Mr. Fitzwater. He has given another year of earnest effort to the work, and has added many more to that long list of individuals into whose lives he has brought light and help by bringing them God's Holy Word. When the moral forces which are at work in the great state of West Virginia shall be summed up, that which Mr. Fitzwater has done will surely have place among the first.

Rev. Ivanhoe Robertson

The Rev. Ivanhoe Robertson is one who shows special fitness for the work; he is modest and retiring, earnest, self-sacrificing, and diligent. He has done a constructive work of Bible distribution. With a real faith in the Book and its power to give life, he has taken time in his work to bring the Word into vital contact with the souls of men, and has witnessed the transforming power of the truth in many of these lives.

Rev. D. E. Day

This is a brief record of the activities of another one of our "faithfuls." Mr. Day serves us along with his other Christian work. He is indefatigable in effort and cheerfully makes personal sacrifices for the good of the cause. He has a very practical faith in the conduct of the work. He believes in the Book, and he also believes that people should pay full price for it, when it is possible, and to pay at least some part of price if too poor to pay full cost. He believes that people should be encouraged to buy the better grades of books.

And it is wonderful what he accomplishes by making this creed the guiding principle in his activities. He brings things to pass, and has succeeded in placing hundreds of copies of such books in the homes he has visited, a goodly number of which he found to be without the Bible.

Mr. George C. Allen

In this worker we have a fine type of the consecrated layman, and an illustration of the valuable service such men may render to the Kingdom. He makes his headquarters in one of the larger cities of our Agency. He came to us some months ago as a stranger, but well recommended, and has already given convincing proofs of his ministry. Resourceful in plan, versatile in method and untiring in effort, he has accomplished "big things" in the work. His distribution during the past six months has been 1,545 Bibles, 6,174 Testaments, and 9,087 portions, a total of 16,806. All of this at a comparative small cost to the Society.

We might pursue these personalities by passing in review others of our assistants in the field; but what has been written, we think, will suffice to give a characterization of these workers.

We pass now to consider in more detail some other phases of the work, and, as heretofore, will let the workers tell in their own way their stories. Many needs have been found, many successes achieved, many difficulties encountered, and many victories won. Those who read these reports will, we are sure, have their faith and interest in the Bible Society's work made stronger. So may it be.

Mr. C. F. Chapman

Here is a very busy man, but not so busy as to neglect the Bible work. The following excerpts from his letters tell of the fine work he and his colleagues are doing:

"Orders have been pouring in from all over our territory, and by the time I get these filled we will be practically out of the Gospels. I sent out an order Saturday for 5,000 of the Gospel of John for the mountain schools, which open this week, and this, I feel sure, is but the beginning of a greater work. I had intended ordering another large supply, but waited, feeling that these would be supplied by friends just as others have been. If we only abide in Him, then every need will be met as it arises.

"It often happens that after the Gospel of John is studied and an examination passed on it, — for which we give a Testament, — the teachers will write that the children have gotten so interested they want to take up the study of another book. Therefore I would like for you to include some of the other books in my next order.

"I have spent nearly every evening for two weeks in a little mission, in the cotton mill district, among the poorest of the poor, distributing tracts and Gospels, and quite a number have taken up the study of John to get a Testament. Most of these people know nothing

but poverty and sin. May we pray that God will cause his truth to have a transforming power in their lives.

"Well, Christmas was on me before I knew it, and for a long time before Christmas we were so busy at the office during the day, that I could give little time to sending out the Gospels and Testaments to the teachers. This necessitated my working far into the night; but I do thank the Lord for every opportunity for getting the Word into the hands of the people. For it does satisfy the longing, hungry soul.

"I recently had a conference with Dr. R——, who is very keen for Scripture distribution. He recently made a trip into the mountains, where he gave away large quantities of Gospels and Testaments. He said that thousands of the young people up there have practically nothing to read; and as their young minds reached out for something — anything — to read, they gladly accepted these Gospels, and would read them over and over, until they were worn out. As I listened to him I said, 'Where can we place to better advantage the living Word?' Beginning next week, we are going to meet at his house once a week for prayer and council with reference to the work.

"I wish to thank you for the copy of the ANNUAL REPORT received some days ago. It is the first report I have seen, and it is intensely interesting. I count it a rare privilege to be affiliated, even in the smallest way, with such work. I like 'Our Unfinished Task' also, and I am mailing these to friends whom I think will be interested. I am deeply pleased to see the enlargement of your catalogue, the reduction in price, and particularly glad to see listed the other books of the New Testament at a penny. I lift up my voice in praise to God for the vision of the officers of the American Bible Society."

500 Bibles for Special Use of Tourists

"I am an insurance man, going in and out among the people. I always try to find out something of the inside life of my patrons. When it is possible, I talk to them about their soul's salvation. I find many in need of readable Bibles. I also find many among the foreign-speaking people who want Bibles in their own languages. I now enclose check for six Greek and two Polish Bibles. Ours is the oldest city in the United States and the population is constantly changing — so many tourists. As many people going away on a trip leave their Bibles at home, a band of loyal men and women have decided that they would place Bibles in some of the hotels and camps. Will you send us 500 No. 53's for this purpose? We cannot pay for them all at once, but will settle in full in about three months. We thank you for the 10 per cent discount, on what was already a remarkably low price."

An Echo from the Cyclone in Florida

"In the flood here, our church was totally destroyed with all of

its equipment, as were many others in the place. We have gone into an old house as temporary quarters, until we can rebuild, — which will not be soon, as nearly all of our members were heavy losers by the flood. We have no pulpit Bible, no small Bibles; nothing in fact, and nothing with which to buy. But the work must go on, and the comforting influence of the gospel is needed in this desolate place as never before. Can you send us some Bibles?"

700 Conversions

Here is a brief but gripping report from Mr. Dick Begbie, who finds time to associate Bible distribution with his everyday duties.

"I have nothing new to tell about my work. I just keep on giving out the Gospels issued by the American Bible Society. He has promised rewards for our labors, and I believe it and see it daily. I preach on the streets at night, and in the tourists' camps on Sunday. The Lord has been good to me this year. I have been instrumental in leading more than seven hundred persons to Christ (not a bad year's work?). Most all hand-picked, personal work. I get them to reading God's Word; then the rest is easy. I could write a couple of hours about the ones who have been led to Christ here at this stand, from the king of bootleggers to presidents of banks. So, you see, God is playing no favorites. Continue to pray for me, that I may be used of Him for the salvation of souls. I never could have done my work without the Gospel of John and the prayers of the Christian people."

A Chapter-a-day Club

This method is used by a home mission worker to whom we have furnished Scriptures.

"God is in this work, guiding and directing it, as is evidenced by the results wherever it is started. One Sunday morning, I presented it to our Sunday school; a goodly number joined, and it has been growing, until now I have 250 children ranging in ages from seven to fifteen. They read the four Gospels, penny kind, and receive as a reward a Testament. Many of the children are in weekly Bible Classes, learning the books of the Bible, memorizing Scripture, and learning to lead in prayer. I consider the children's work here the most important as well as the most encouraging work of the field.

"One little girl had to go to a hospital for a serious operation, and as soon as she regained consciousness, wanted to know what day it was, and if she had missed reading her chapter. She asked her nurse to read to her when she was too weak to hold the book, and read the entire New Testament before she went home."

Quiet-hour Covenant Club

Another method by another worker is thus reported:

"The pledge of the quiet-hour club requires at least fifteen minutes

each day for Bible reading and prayer. This year we are studying the New Testament under the direction of our pastor. We meet once a week to have our lessons assigned and to answer the questions our teacher gave us the week before. We are studying Matthew now, using the little penny books. We like them so much for individual Bible book study. Our teacher will present us with each book as we come to it. Then we will have the entire Testament when we finish. We are already finding it lots of pleasure, and it is going to be a wonderful help to our boys and girls."

A Council of Churches Becomes Interested in Bible Distribution

"The Norfolk Council of Churches, through the Rev. W. E. Calender as chaplain, is visiting the various hospitals of the city regularly and systematically. Weekly services are being conducted in the Municipal Home and also in the Marine Hospital, where practically all of the patients are from out of town. In connection with this visitation, we are anxious to have Testaments and Gospels to give especially to those who are away from home and friends. We do not have any provision for the purchase of these in our budget. I am writing to ask if you will send us at least 200 copies, and more if you can, and we will distribute them as indicated above."

Home Mission Work

Here is where we find our largest opportunity for doing and emphasizing the missionary character of Bible distribution. It is into hundreds of these neglected and spiritually needy communities that our helpers have gone taking the Word. Many of the needs found are tragic in character and pathetic in appeal. The following brief items will give an inkling of what is being done:

Through Mud Up to the Hub

"By reading the Gospel of John I was converted, and after my conversion I fully made up my mind to go into the ministry. On account of poor health, I was denied the privilege of the foreign field; so for the first four years of my ministry I chose mountain work. I wanted to get at least a taste of sacrifice and to take my turn in the hard places. There is no greater hardship than work in the real back country. It is a strain that tells on the system and even shortens lives. My field covered sixty-five miles on roads with mud at times up to the hubs of the rickety old buggy in which I traveled. After much work and prayer the church was completed, and then the lovely Bibles for it were sent by the Bible Society. It was a day of rejoicing for all. There are adult people coming to this church who never set foot inside of a church building before. The most striking thing about these people is extreme poverty, pitifully crowded and huddled living conditions. They have few gospel privileges, but appreciate every effort that is being made for them. School advantages are few, and the wonder is that they are even as

civilized as they are. We are trying to teach them how to raise produce of all sorts for the market, how to make clothes and to take care of little children. It's a great work, and we ask your prayers and support."

Determination plus Devotion

"We are down here in the remote hills of east Georgia, trying to help the hill folk who have not had a chance to learn. We took over the place by faith — and that is the way we go on still — in His name. We have had a private school in our home until, recently, we put up a wee one-room school building. We have nineteen scholars, each in different places in the books. This district has never had a public school, and only once in a while have they had any teacher. My one determination is to have the children learn to read God's Word. You sent us some Scripture portions, and we have used them until they are literally worn out; and now we need Bibles or Testaments with very large print, so that they might get the truth easily. Due to various causes, nearly all of the mountain children have poor eyesight. Many of the adults cannot read or write. I taught a woman fifty-four years old to read, and we used the Bible as a textbook. She gained great comfort from it. We find they like the Bible stories so much better than the ones in the first and second readers. We truly hope you will help us in this undertaking."

A Drouth of Money and a Drouth of the Word

"A friend has consented to give us a pulpit Bible; but I would like the best in the world to have 36 small Bibles, a dozen each for my small churches. But I must confess that we are too poor to pay for them. All of my people are farmers, and renters on tobacco farms. The recent drought made this crop almost an entire failure, and many of them are now borrowing money on next year's crops. In this entire section of country, due to dry weather, things are in a mighty bad shape. It seems hard to get adjusted to low prices and scarcity of money, after such high prices during and after the war. All of the money which was in Liberty bonds has been spent, and there seems to be nothing to fall back on. We shall certainly be grateful for a little help at this time, so that the work in the Sunday schools may go forward."

Into the Byways and Highways to Persuade Them to Come

"We have a new school, which is situated far from the railroads, doctors, dentists, and ministers. In the fall we had a bad landslide from a nearby mountain, and a flood which washed all of the bridges away. In January we had many severe storms; but in spite of these hindrances our work is progressing finely. We have seventy-five children on roll. Could you give us some Gospels and Testaments for these children, all of them from homes of poverty. I know positively of one home in which there was no Bible until I gave a son

of the home a Testament and Psalms. This boy is learning to read the Bible, and I would like for him to have one of his own. If you can help us, we will be very grateful."

From a Methodist Preacher

"I am a Methodist preacher, living in this place. My territory covers 60 miles in L—— and C—— Counties. This is strictly mission territory. There is not a church building in C—— County, and hundreds of people without a Bible or Testament. What steps would it be necessary for me to take to get some Scriptures for free distribution in this community?"

From a Worker in Spotsylvania County

A number of new families have recently settled in Spotsylvania County, having come down from the mountains of Tennessee. In a revival just held, six boys from these families have joined the mission church. I am a retired business woman, seventy-five years old, and can not afford to purchase Bibles for them. Will you give them to me or tell me where I can get them free?"

From a Christian Endeavor Worker

"I am writing to know if you could furnish me with two dozen Bibles for distribution in our mission work. I want these to use in Christian Endeavor work. A few of the children have Bibles, but others have only the big old-fashioned family Bibles, which are too cumbersome for them to use in doing memory work."

From a Cotton-mill Section

"I did not expect to write you again so soon for books, but the people change so often in this mill country. Only yesterday two mothers came to me for family Bibles. Both had large families and no Bible and no place to keep a record of births and deaths. I need twenty-five small Testaments for a Wednesday night Bible Class. We plan to study a book a month. I know you will send these, and the two Bibles for the mothers, for the American Bible Society has never failed me yet when I have called for help. I do not know what the mission worker would do without it."

Y. M. C. A.

"We need about thirty-five ordinary Bibles to supplement what we have in our Bible Classes. On account of a cut in the appropriation this year from the Community Chest, we find ourselves very hard pressed for funds, and I thought it might be possible for you to give us these Bibles, which will be put into immediate use. Some second-hand war Bible will do."

Orphanage

"I am superintendent and field agent for the Methodist Orphanage in Florida. We have thirty boys and thirty girls who each

need a Bible or Testament. May I ask if you will donate these for the orphans. Bible reading is as much a part of the daily routine as their other studies. We are doing our best to make useful men and women out of the children in our care."

Chaplain for a State Colony

"In connection with my work here I also act as chaplain for the State Colony. I am writing you in the interest of the patients. I wonder if the American Bible Society has any Bibles or Testaments you could donate to them. There are 775 inmates here. Of course, many of them could make no use of the Word, for they cannot read; but I suppose two hundred or more of them can read and would appreciate a Testament, if you could furnish same. There is a young woman who directs the religious work, and she will see that they are carefully distributed. She holds a Sunday school for them regularly, but has no adequate equipment. If you can do anything in the matter, please to let me know, as I told her I would write you concerning this."

An Appeal from Another Destitute Field

"The work we are trying to do in this community is under the care of the presbytery. We have organized a church in a rural community easily within reach of five or six hundred people, where no other denomination works, and where no effort seems to have been made to win souls for Christ, especially among the large number of young people who offer our best opportunity. We conduct Sunday school, a weekly meeting for young people, community singings, and, in fact, direct the religious life of the neighborhood. From this church has sprung up a mission Sunday school in a community of great need. Notwithstanding the fact that for a number of years the Mormons have been coming in with their teachings, — resulting, as you can imagine, in a number of ignorant followers, — the interest in both schools is marked and the people respond to our efforts and really seem anxious to learn about the Bible. But I find that hardly any of the young people possess Bibles or Testaments, and they need them so badly for the memory work. We hope to be able, in the near future, to buy the entire Bible for the adult classes. The Testaments will be taken into homes where there is no portion of God's Word. I have had the pleasure of meeting and hearing you preach and tell about the wonderful work the American Bible Society is doing. This type of work appeals to me also, much more than in a city church. Country people appreciate your efforts. A church social is a real event in their lives."

The Need Greater Than the Supply

"I have been somewhat puzzled to know how to give out the Bibles you sent for the families coming to my school who have no Bibles in

their homes. There seem to be so many who want one. One mother of a large family said, 'I have always wanted a Bible; but there were so many other places for the little money we had, I never could buy one.' I gave her one with a family record page, so she could write down the names of her family."

Rescuing the Perishing

"The Bibles, Testaments, and Gospels have come, and I cannot tell you how glad and surprised I was. I did not ask for so much, nor did I expect them so soon; but that is the way God works. This is not the first time the American Bible Society has given me or my churches such a gift. I have a mission church of thirty-six members, all of them poor, only two own their homes. My wife and I are running a school for the very destitute children in this city. We go around and find the boys and girls who are not going to school anywhere, from the fact that they have no clothes fit to wear. When it is possible, we furnish them with clothing; but if we have none for them, they are received in their shabby old garments.

"We started school with forty, and it is increasing daily.

"We teach the elementary subjects, but we make a specialty of teaching the Bible an hour every day. We are trying to build character and put these children on the road to make useful men and women. We had but seven Bibles with leaves all falling out, when we received the supply; so you may know how they are appreciated. Now we are needing a building; we are using our own house at present, but it is too crowded. But the school will come, just as the Bibles did. We have had so many direct answers to prayer, often in a day, that we are willing to wait His own good time and way. Nineteen of our adult neighbors are reading the Bibles through this year."

Prison Work

Here is where we have put some of our best efforts; and while the needs discovered are deplorable, the results have been most encouraging, as the following will show:

"We have from five to twenty-five conversions in jail nearly every week. My plan is to go to the jails, leave a Gospel with marked chapter and one particular verse, and ask every one to read this over three times and to think about it during the week. Then I go back, and we read it together and I explain it; it is so easy for them to see the light. A great many of the prisoners are young men, just boys who are there for bootlegging, reckless driving, or some such offense for which they are truly sorry and deeply repentant. It is a good time to sow the seed, and the results are most encouraging. The Scriptures you send are just what I need. I could not do my work without them. I truly wish the public knew about the great work the American Bible Society is doing, and there would be no dearth of funds."

Victory through Faith

"I am glad to report a great victory in my work. I have charge of the prison work in G—— County, and I also visit many sanatoriums and hospitals. In all of them I distribute Gospels. I have seen many girls and boys and even hardened criminals pray their way through to victory. I am permitted to visit the Death Row, and it is pitiful to hear them pleading with God to save them and have mercy on them before they die. How good it is to read to them from the Book of Books. 'He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him.' Pray for me, that I may be a blessing to my less fortunate brethren as I go along this way. I truly thank you for the Gospels which you always so cheerfully send me."

The Spirit of the Master

"One of my boys (age forty-four years) tried to run away last Wednesday and was shot through the lung. Wonder of wonders, he still lives and is bearing up bravely and praying to be allowed to get well and go back home to tell the boys what great things God has done for him. He says he even forgives the guard who shot him. Now I want a big-print Gospel of John or the Psalms for him. The same kind you sent me for the other sick boys. They are so easy to hold and read. I am really begging this one, as I have no funds at all at this time.

"Last week we opened a night school in prison, with the principal of one of the city's schools in charge, giving two evenings a week to this work, and also conducting prayer meeting once a week. We are constantly needing the large-print Gospels, as many of the boys read so poorly they cannot follow the small print at all. One man who could not read a word insisted on taking his turn, and the pal sitting next to him would tell him every word and he would repeat it after him. I thank you in advance for the Gospels. You have never failed me, and I know these will come."

Easily Persuaded to Do Better

"I am superintendent of prison work in the detention home. I go there to talk to the girls and teach them how to sew and read, and as they sew I read the story of God's forgiving grace to them. Often the sewing will be still in their laps and they are listening intently to the old story. These girls are mostly in their teens and are easily persuaded to do better. They have never had a chance is the reason they are there. I want some Testaments, so that each girl may have one by her bed and take it away with her when she leaves."

The Transforming Power of the Word

"I am chaplain for a convict camp, and for more than three years I have held services every Sunday afternoon. I am wondering if

the Bible Society will send me another supply of Testaments for this work. I like for each man to take a Testament home with him; therefore the need is continuous. They get in the habit of reading while in camp; and many of them keep it up, and it works wonders in their lives. As soon as they are interested in reading God's Word, immediately there is a marked change in their behavior. I don't know what mission workers would do without the loyal support of the American Bible Society."

Conclusion

It is said that on one occasion Dr. Robert Moffat, his father-in-law, took David Livingstone to a hilltop in Africa and showed him the smoke curling from a thousand villages, in none of which had the gospel ever been preached. It was then that Livingstone adopted as his motto, "Anywhere, so it is forward."

As we look upon our field we, too, see the needs and the waiting opportunities. We, too, feel the urge of the Master's "Go"; and looking to him, we shall endeavor, during 1927, to do our "bit" by doing our best to hasten that day when "the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea."

CENTRAL AGENCY

The Central Agency was established in 1909. The field includes the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 209,344 volumes, an increase of 17,370, making the aggregate circulation since 1909 now 1,652,875 volumes. Nineteen persons have been employed in the distribution during the past year—7 colporteurs and 12 correspondents, 24 volunteers helping. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Frank Marston, D.D., 424 Elm Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.



HERE will be found an interesting report, which brings into the foreground parts of the Bible workers' panorama not often pictured. What some might call monotonous is shown to have its variety and zest. "The Wayside Pulpit" reported is an experiment that others may well wish to try. There is a disappearance of the homogeneous population, and a spread of foreign elements in the south, as in the north and east. This brings elements of strength and elements of danger, according as the teachings and principles of the Bible prevail or are neglected. Here, as in other reports, tributes are paid to the colporteurs and correspondents and volunteers who so greatly help in the distribution of the Scriptures, and the strengthening of the community through the safeguard of Christian life and character and thought. There has been an encouraging increase of 17,000 in the total number of volumes circulated for the year.

Once again the time has come to tell the story of Bible distribution in the territory of the Central Agency of the American Bible Society. This Agency covers the states of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi.

There is "nothing new under the sun." Each year is much the same as the one preceding. We have been pursuing the even tenor of our way, ever busy at the task assigned us. We have diligently tried to seek out new ways of doing the old task,—or of doing it more efficiently,—that we might reach a greater number of people with less expense. I once heard a minister say that another minister, in trying to minister to seven or eight churches on his circuit, was like trying to spread an "ounce of butter on a ten-acre biscuit."

Maybe that is what we have been trying to do; at any rate our efforts have continually reminded me of the big biscuit with the thin coat of butter. But we have tried to make it go as far as it would. So far as the workers are concerned, they have served on a meager wage and deserved far more than they received. To them, and to the faithful office force, is largely due what has been accomplished during 1926. But after all this is said, we must say that to God be all the glory.

The life of a Bible Society Secretary is never monotonous. There is the spice of life in abundance. Scarcely two days are the same. It is the usual thing for the unusual to happen. It may be ludicrous and laughable; or it may be sad and heart-rending. Some new religious fake, or fad, appears on the horizon to break the dull monotony of our skyline. Or it may be some startling ignorance of the Bible that shocks our spiritual nerves; or, perchance, it is some appeal of the poor and the destitute for their share of the Bread of Life—some distressing need—that tugs at one's heart-strings. The Secretary has always tried not to forget that, while much of this work is purely business, yet, after all, the spirit of true religion must dominate the whole program. It is so easy to become purely mechanical in religious work and lose the sense of the presence of Christ and, therefore, his compassion and his power. In the multiplicity of "business cares" it is so easy to allow persons to become "cases," and the distribution of the Bread of Life to become merely "loaves and fishes."

Experiences

But I was speaking of "experiences" that break up the dead level of life in an office of the Bible Society. For example: In comes a good woman of Yiddish ancestry, who insists that she is "a daughter of Abraham and a niece of Moses." It was a very busy day with us, so I did not stay to inquire how such a relationship could be, nor have I had time to figure it out since; so I just congratulated the good woman on her distinguished relations and proceeded to inquire just what she wished to buy.

First of all, she wanted the "Book of Jasher." As this book has been out of print for some time, I told her we did not have a copy. Next she wanted the "Secret History of the Pyramids." I had to confess that this, too, was out of stock. Above all else she wanted, and insisted on getting, the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Books of Moses. It was no use to tell her we did not have them and that the American Bible Society did not publish them nor carry them in stock. I must get them for her anyway, and she knew that they did have them at Headquarters and I must write and order them for her at once. "But they have not got them," I insisted. "No matter; you write and they will send." "But the American Bible Society does not have them," again I said. "No matter, you will see. You write and they will send."

It was of no use to argue, for she went on to say: "Do you know what Moses said?" "Why, I know some things he said," I boasted. "Well, he said, Whenever you come to a stonewall, you go right on through. Never you say you can't do a thing. You try. You write and they will send it." And with this she went through the street door with the parting words, "I will be back next Saturday." Many Saturdays have come and gone, but not she; and so far as these books are concerned, we are still up against the stonewall that offers no door of escape.

Then here is a letter. It is from an old lady who says she lives far in the backwoods — even five miles from a schoolhouse. Neighbors are few and far between. She is anxious to be one of service to the world yet. She sees the little children and thinks she may be of service to them. With this in mind she applies for membership in the School Bag League and is told by those in charge that she is "too old" to be of any service. "Of course! Let the old minister be shot." No arrow of the human tongue goes so deep into the quick as the words:

"You are too old for further usefulness."

So she writes to us. We told her she was not too old for service in the work of the Bible Society if she could give Gospels to little children; and we sent her a small package. How delighted the dear old lady was to know that there was still a place for her in the world's activities! So she is busy trying to get little children interested in reading a Gospel with a promise of another when they have read the first, and so on. She writes us such joyous, enthusiastic letters, telling of her work among the children.

She has enlisted a public school teacher; and the young woman and the older one are working together with God in teaching the little children of their community the ways of God. And some day, maybe, a missionary in some far-off, non-Christian land will tell how she was led to the Saviour by an old lady down in the backwoods of Mississippi. Or maybe some minister, or some President of the United States, will look back to this good woman as the one who taught them of better things and started them on the upward climb. Who knows?

Metal Polish

While I was writing the above I heard the street door open and a voice asking for the "manager," and some one directing the owner of this voice back to "the office"; and presently, turning from my desk to greet my unwelcome visitor, I saw the figure of a boy framed in the doorway. Instantly I recognized him as the boy who had worried me so frequently about his "metal polish."

I must confess to a great deal of impatience when I saw, and recognized, my visitor. "I do not want anything," I said, trying to be pleasant. "But I've got a new kind, and it's got a new name," he said. "But I don't want any," I replied. "Let me demonstrate for

you," he pleaded. "No; I have no time, and I do not want any," I insisted. "Just come out here and see me polish your showcases," he said. "I don't want any, but you can try it on the safe knob and dial," I faltered, turning to my desk, thinking I had quieted him for a while and I could write a few more sentences of my "story."

But it was of no use. He talked as fast as he worked. Finally I surrendered and watched him until the brass dial looked like a mirror. "I'll take a bottle," I said. "Do you sell this to help pay your way through school?" I guessed. "Yes. I go to night school." "Where do you go to Sunday school?" "Nowhere." "Where do your parents go to church?" "They don't go. You see — my father was a Protestant and mother was a Catholic, and I guess they just decided they wouldn't go anywhere at all."

"How would you like to have this Testament?" I asked. "All right. Say, I read that other book you gave me, nearly through." "What book was that?" I asked, for I had forgotten. "The little Book of John. You know some boys love to read Wild West books; but they ain't any good." "Why, no," I agreed. "You read this Testament, and you'll find more thrills in that than in all the Wild West stories. It tells about Jesus and how they finally killed him." "Say, that feller will never die." "What fellow?" I asked completely mystified. "Jesus," he replied, to my astonishment. "No, He certainly will never die," I said. "Say, what's your name?" I asked. "Cloud," he answered. "Good. Keep the silver lining on the outside," I replied. "Sure, keep the bright side outside is my motto. Say, do you make these books?" "Yes." "What place is this anyway?" "The American Bible Society. We have the Bible here in thirty-nine languages." "And can't you get 'em anywhere else?" "No. Just here." "Golly, it must be fine to be the only one to sell anything. When I go into these garages with my polish, they say, 'Oh, some other guy was in here with the same stuff,' and that's what they give me everywhere." "Well, don't forget to read your Testament." "Shure, I won't. I'll come back and tell you all about it. S'long." He was gone.

What can you do with a boy anyway. They get right up close to my heart, even if they do break right into the midst of "story" writing with their "metal polish." Oh, well, I gave him a Testament and got his promise to read it, "on the wing," and maybe it will "polish" him and make him even "whiter than the snow." Who knows?

The Wayside Pulpit

No, I do not occupy it. It is not mine. It is just a way we devised to get the Gospels out among people who rarely ever enter a church, and at the same time put some people to work who are anxious to do something worth while. We appealed to the good Christian women who had so splendidly helped us in our Bibleless homes campaign last year. The proposition was that they get the permission

from the "powers that be" to install "Gospel boxes" in public places where people congregate and wait with nothing to occupy their time, such as waiting rooms of railway stations, courthouse corridors, hotel lobbies, etc. They were to provide the small boxes, and I agreed to supply the Gospels, free. Well, they responded with a will and were anxious to get at it. As a consequence we have little "Gospel boxes" in many places, in many towns, in our area, kept filled with the little "Gospels," and these are the "wayside pulpits," and these are the wayside "preachers."

In one town, they write me that they have "boxes" in a 'bus station, a barber shop, two dental offices, the hotel, the courthouse, and the jail. Another lady writes that she has six boxes, and she insisted that they be just as attractive as possible; for she did not want her "Lord's messages put in unsightly boxes." Another lady writes that they have a "box" in the railway station waiting room, and this place is filled with travelers all day long. These good women have distributed about 1,000 Gospels from this one "wayside pulpit" in the past few months.

Some of these books are read on the trains, some in hotel lobbies, some in barber shops, and some in homes where they were unknown before. Then some have doubtless been read on the "high seas"; for we have one "Gospel box" in the Seaman's Church in Mobile, and this box holds the Gospels in the following languages: Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish, Syrian, Welsh, and Yiddish. "Now, let it work." The wayside pulpit is preaching to rough seamen from the uttermost part of the earth. God grant that some of them may hear the call "Follow Me" and leave their boats to become "fishers of men."

The Market Place

Jesus spoke of a man who went out into the market place and found men standing idle. So he would today in our markets, but he would not find our colporteur idle, if he should come to the market house in Covington, Kentucky. This man is one of the busiest men about the place, for he is ever about his "Father's business." This is the Rev. Frank W. Points, and we have had him in charge of our Bible stand in this city market house for about four years. We tried this as an experiment, but it is no longer an experiment. It long ago passed that stage and has become an established place there. They come from the most remote places of the county, hunting for the "Bible man" and the Bible stand. We have had some opposition, in certain quarters; but their opposition has been good, free advertising for us. Many have come saying that they had not heard of the Bible stand, till they read the letters in the daily papers condemning the placing of a Bible table in a market house. The influence of this stand has gone far and near, and many Bibleless homes have been supplied from it. Doubtless, many of those who claim

that a "Bible stand" is out of place in a market house would be perfectly willing to set up tables for the money changers in the sacred precincts of the temple.

In addition to his work at the Bible stand, Colporteur Points has done valiant service the other days of the week, when he works in Cincinnati and suburbs, or other places in Kentucky outside of Covington. The habitués of the dens of vice have heard his voice in prayer many times and have received gifts of Gospels from his hands. In connection with his work for the local auxiliary, the Young Men's Bible Society of Cincinnati, in 1926, he made, 11,636 visits in homes, held religious services in 2,484 of these homes, found and supplied 326 Bibleless homes, and has led many souls to a knowledge of Christ.

Bible Reading Campaign

One of our enterprising workers, the Rev. J. D. Canaday, in west Tennessee conceived the idea of offering as many as twenty-five free Gospels to any Sunday school that would enlist the children in a Gospel reading campaign, giving one to each child that would promise to read it, with the offer of another when that was read, and so on through the whole New Testament. I told him to go ahead with his plan, and we would try to supply the Gospels. He sent out the word to the Sunday schools over his territory, and the offer met with a most hearty response. Just as fast as our funds will permit we will supply him with Gospels for this work and try to spread the campaign all over the western part of that state among the children. We have already sent him 2,000 Gospels for this purpose, and the demand is for more.

We had just started this when the nation-wide campaign for the reading of the Gospel of Luke in January and the Acts in February was started by the Federal Council of Churches in America. They have for their slogan, "A Chapter a Day Keeps the Tempter Away." As I write this story, this campaign has just started; so we shall have to wait till next year to tell the rest.

A New Problem

With the exception of Ohio, the Central Agency of the Bible Society has always covered a homogeneous population. But conditions are changing. Hitherto not so many foreign-speaking people have been in the southern states. Now they are finding their way South from the North, and North from the South. The great boom that the South is experiencing is taking many foreign-speaking people southward. At the same time the migration of the negro to the North has robbed the South of the plantation laborer. To offset this loss, the Mexicans are being brought in from across the border. And so here come two letters from Christian workers in Mississippi, within a few weeks, asking for large donations of Spanish Bibles and Testaments and tracts for the large influx of Mexican cotton pickers.

Such a migration, following that of the negro, is producing serious problems for the church, and, while presenting great opportunities, is at the same time creating heavy responsibilities. The gospel is the only solution, and the Bible Society is the key. The church must not desert the Bible Society now when she needs the Society's help so much.

Work among Foreigners

Speaking of the work among the foreigners of the South, reminds one of the great unfinished task among them in the North.

Our veteran colporteur, the Rev. Rade Pesut, has been doing real missionary work in the city of Cleveland, Ohio. He declares that prohibition has been a great blessing to the foreigner, and few of them complain about it. Mr. Pesut is a Bohemian by birth and speaks half a dozen Central European languages. For this reason, as well as others, he is a valuable colporteur for our large cities. His work takes him among all classes and many nationalities. He works in stores, factories, poolrooms, homes—wherever men congregate. He is welcomed by Protestant and Catholic alike, for he is tactful and speaks kindly to all. He sold the Scriptures, in 1926, to the following nationalities: Armenians, Bohemians, Chinese, Croatians, English, Germans, Italians, Japanese, Jews, Lithuanians, Polish, Russians, Ruthenians, Serbians, Slovenians, Spanish, and Hungarians. Among these foreigners he says that he has not heard a word of disloyalty to the Government.

The following figures will give some idea of the extent of Mr. Pesut's labors. He has visited 11,916 families, finding, and for the most part supplying, 2,282 Bibleless homes; he sold 2,200 volumes of Scripture in 14 languages, and donated 3,522 volumes; he estimates that in his round of visitation he traveled about 4,000 miles. On one occasion he was trying to sell Bibles in a poolroom. The proprietor objected and said: "Do you know where you are?" "Yes; I know very well where I am." "This is a poolroom," said the proprietor, "and no place for Bibles." Then one of the men bought a Bible and said: "The Bible is good everywhere. It is a good book." But let Mr. Pesut tell a part of his own story.

"An Italian woman storekeeper bought a Bible and said that she likes the Bible. I asked her where she ever heard about it, and she said that two Italian women came from New York and sold over one hundred Bibles in a short time. A Russian bought two Bibles, one for himself and one for his children. He said, 'The Bible is a wonderful book. Everyone should love the teachings of Christ.' A Pole bought a Bible for his wife. He said he did not intend to read it himself. (He must have become Americanized!) A Croatian bought a Bible when I told him it was a complete Bible. A Slovenian woman bought a Bible when she learned it was a complete Bible."

I have quoted these excerpts from Mr. Pesut's reports just to show the reaction of the foreigner to the Bible when offered to him in a

kind way, — which he, himself, is very quick to discover. Mr. Pesut says that he sometimes sells Bibles to priests, and that if a person, instead of speaking against the priest, would teach the people something better than the priests teach them, the people would be grateful and would listen. He says further that some Roman and Greek Catholic priests have been more friendly to him than some Protestant church officers.

Among the Mountain Poor

The only difference between the mountain poor and the city poor is a difference in location. One lives among the mountains in the backwoods section, and the other in the slums or tenements. The natural environment of the mountain poor is far better than the unhealthy moral environment of the city poor. They are alike in their great moral and spiritual need and destitution.

One of our colporteurs has been doing a fine piece of real missionary work among them. His name is the Rev. D. L. Howell, a Methodist minister. He has found great poverty, and a great need for Bibles. At one place he found a man and wife and two aged aunts in whose home there had never been a Bible. A gift of one made them doubly happy. The next home was also a home of poverty and no Bible. He left one as a donation. On his return he heard the poor woman reading aloud and caught these words: "In the beginning God . . ." It was the beginning of a new life in that home, and the horizon of the poor woman had been widened as far as eternity. In another home the man said to his wife, "Get my Bible," and she brought out "Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser." In another home he left a Bible where one had never been before, and the mother said: "I will send this to my daughter in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and, when she comes home, we will all have it together." In still another home of poverty he left a Bible, and the poor woman, with tears streaming down her face, said: "I have had a hard time, but they spit in the face of the Lord and he had a hard time, and I can bear it all for his sake." In yet another home he found three old ladies, and when he gave them a Bible, — for they had none and none of them was a Christian, — one of them said: "We do not have clothes good enough to go to church. Nobody ever talks to us about being Christians, and nobody cares for us." And he said: "The American Bible Society cares for you and has sent me to tell you of the Saviour." In another small town he found eighteen families without the Bible, and found many anxious to get them.

A Faithful Helpmeet

This colporteur goes on to say: "One day I was carrying a very heavy load of Bibles and thought my lot a pretty hard one, when I heard a man and woman talking. Looking up on the hillside, I saw a man pulling an old-fashioned plow with ropes, and his wife was doing the plowing. Then I heard her say: 'Now let me pull the

plow.' Then I went on my way convinced that my job was not so hard after all."

Hard Times among the Lumberjacks

This same missionary colporteur pushed his way back further into the mountain region, and came to a lumber camp where the workmen were in great distress. The mill had been shut down, throwing them all out of work and food. They were in hard circumstances and were all glad to get a word of comfort from a man of God. He gave a Bible to one poor woman whose husband was so enraged because she had become a Christian, that he burned her Bible. Another poor woman said with tears, as a Bible was given her and she had one of her own for the first time in her life: "I'll have my friends put this under my head when I go to heaven and they lay this old poor worn-out body in the grave."

And so the story goes! What shall I more say? The time would fail me to tell of the other faithful colporteurs and their work, who have toiled just as faithfully and scattered the Scriptures broadcast—Dean and Lyon, and the several correspondents and volunteer workers. These good men have gone from house to house, up and down the streets and lanes of the cities and villages, known as "Bible men"—a noble title. The half has not been told and will not be

Till the moon is old
And the sun grows cold
And the books of the Judgment Day unfold.

The world little knows how much it owes to these men, in so many instances the real pioneers of religion. They are real missionaries and deserve much more credit than they get.

Bibles for the Blind

There is no class or condition of men to which the American Bible Society does not minister. Jesus once said that the evidence of his Messiahship was the fact that the "blind receive their sight and the poor have the gospel preached to them." These are also the proofs of the right of the Bible Society to live. It ministers to both of these classes. Among others, it was our privilege this past year to give the four Gospels, in the raised type for the blind, to an old veteran of the cross, who had preached for many years, in hard fields, and now, old and poor, is also blind. At the age of seventy-four he learned to read with his fingers, in a few weeks, and now sits in peaceful contentment beside his old cabin door, reading with his fingers the pages he loves so well and that tell him of "rest for the weary" and of the "Father's house of many mansions."

Larger and larger grows the task of the American Bible Society from year to year. It is not nearly done. It will never be, at the present rate of attempting to cover the field. There are greedy commercial interests that look, with covetous eyes, at our work of Bible distribution and realize the money that could be made at it, if ever

the Bible Society, with its low prices, should close its doors. They see that it is a "craft" at which they could make a rich living. May God pity the poor if the church, recreant of her duty, hands this over to the commercial interests of the world. But it never will; for the church is loyal to her Lord. There yet remains much to be done, for in thousands upon thousands of homes a Bible has never been, even here in our own, and in other Christian lands.

One fact we have discovered in our area, and that is that there are scores of willing workers who can be enlisted in this work of Bible distribution, if they are given a chance. I refer to the good Christian women of our churches. During this past year of 1926, under the leadership of Mrs. Thos. I. Taylor, of Jackson, Tennessee, this town was canvassed by the Christian women there, and scores of Bibleless homes were found and supplied with Bibles. What was done in Jackson by these volunteer workers, may be done elsewhere. They did a splendid piece of missionary work. The same good women who helped us the past two years in Bibleizing the towns, have helped us, in 1926, in the work of the "wayside pulpit." They will always do this kind of missionary work, and do it well and do it gladly. We must find a way, or make one, for them to do so.

For us this has been a year of great spiritual blessing from on high, and to God be all the glory.

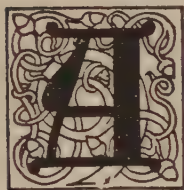
In closing this recital, may I say that we have had six fulltime workers, part of the time, paradoxical as that may seem—they worked all of the time they worked at all. Some were with us only part of the year, and others were hindered in one way or another. Then we have had eleven part-time workers, who helped in connection with their regular work as home mission pastors, or something of that nature.

All of us working together have been able to distribute 209,344 copies of the Scriptures, 183,526 by sale, and 25,818 by donation, in the following forty-four languages:

Albanian	Dutch	Hebrew	Russian
Arabic	English	Hungarian	Ruthenian
Armeno-Turkish	Esperanto	Italian	Serbian
Armenian	Croatian	Japanese	Slovak
Bulgarian	Finnish	Korean	Slovenian
Cherokee	Flemish	Latin	Spanish
Chinese—Canton	French	Lithuanian	Swedish
Colloquial	Gaelic	Norwegian	Syriac
Choctaw	German	Polish	Turkish
Czechoslovakian	Greek (Ancient)	Portuguese	Welsh
Danish	Greek (Modern)	Roumanian	Yiddish
			Zulu

NORTHWESTERN AGENCY

The Northwestern Agency was established in 1906. The field covered includes the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri (excepting Kansas City), North Dakota, and South Dakota. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 788,009 copies, an increase of 162,254, making a total circulation of 5,343,344 since establishment. Fourteen workers were employed in this Bible distribution in 1926—6 colporteurs and 8 correspondents; 75 voluntary workers also assisting. The Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., is Agency Secretary, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.



GLANCE at the list of states mentioned above and a moment's thought will show what an important and large area is in the bounds of this Agency. The supply of the Scriptures to the great and mixed population, with the funds available, is indeed a difficult task. But the spirit breathing in the report which follows, as well as the work therein recorded, will show that courage and enthusiasm have accomplished much. Last year's high-water mark of circulation has again been surpassed by the very considerable total of 160,000 volumes. As last year, this increase has been practically all portions, the increase in Testaments being offset by a decrease in Bibles. Perhaps the key word of this report is the word "special." The Agency Secretary had the special opportunity of a delightful wedding trip abroad, and returned to inaugurate special methods, make special appeals, obtain special help, and achieve special success. The cooperation of an increasing number of pastors and laymen in this area is encouraging, as it has been in other Agencies, and there will be found other encouragements in the pages which follow.

The Secretary Goes Abroad

Immediately after winding up last year's work and closing the accounts, the Secretary entered upon a three months' leave of absence from the Agency. In a semi-official capacity with the Canadian Pacific Steamship Agency, I was permitted the great joy and profit to visit Palestine, Egypt, and other Mediterranean countries. Although I had loved and worked for the circulation of the Bible for over

twenty years, it took this trip to bring about a still larger appreciation of, and love for, the book through which we can know Him whom we serve. None can sit by placid Galilee, or walk over the Mount of Olives, without sensing anew the message of the story of His life as a needed panacea for the ills of the world. It was a great privilege and a most fruitful experience.

A Faithful and Efficient Substitute

During my absence abroad, the work of the Agency was most efficiently taken care of by the office staff under the kindly and capable direction and supervision of the Rev. Ernest A. Bell, who for several years has been a much loved and trusted member of our Advisory Board. Dr. Bell has for more than a score of years been pastor of the Open Air Church, preaching or conducting services every night that the weather will permit on the open street corner in the Loop district in Chicago. He knows the full value of getting the Word into the hands and the hearts of the people, and enters most enthusiastically into the work of the Society.

So it was that on our return we found the work of the Agency running smoothly, and we had but to pick up the reins and go ahead.

New Location

For two or three years the Society had seriously considered the supreme necessity of securing quarters better adapted to the work of the Society and more befitting the dignity and honor of the book we circulate. After a thorough canvass of the entire Loop district, we finally contracted for rooms on the seventeenth story of the new Jewelers' Building (now called the Pure Oil Building), just outside the Loop proper, at the corner of Wabash Avenue and Wacker Drive. This is one of the finest office buildings in the city of Chicago and gives us convenient and appropriate offices, salesroom and storeroom for the needs of the Agency.

Changing Methods of Work

The radical changes in the plans of church work, economic situations, and business methods of the country have set the pace for new methods in the work of distributing the Bibles throughout the country. The early stories of the work of the Bible Society are full of the thrills and romances of the colporteurs as they plodded their way over the country, searching out the unchurched and carrying the printed volumes to those beyond the reach of the preachers or the Bible teachers. But the "regions beyond" have very largely disappeared, especially within the bounds of the area covered by the Northwestern Agency of the American Bible Society. Practically every foot of this area is under the direct supervision of some organized church or missionary endeavor. In such a case the need for the professional colporteur has materially decreased. Where there is an organized church, our work is to inspire and assist that church

to do this work in its community. In pursuance with that fact, we have sought, by correspondence and by personal addresses at conferences and at conventions, to secure cooperation on the part of the churches to do this very thing. And we have met with a wonderfully encouraging response. We have about 12,000 organized churches in this Agency, and we have received definite orders for Scriptures from more than 2,000 of them during the year. This is at least 25 per cent more than in any previous year of the Agency's history. It is our policy to continue an intensive cultivation of the rest of these churches, to secure active cooperation of as many as possible in this supremely important work of distributing the printed Word. To this end, we hold before us the motto of "The active cooperation with every organized church and mission effort within the bounds of the Agency." When that is accomplished, we may approximate the realization of our ultimate goal of "The Word in the hands of every creature."

Summer Campaigns

Chief among the summer campaigns have been the open-air services conducted in the great centers of population within the area. In Chicago alone, sixty-one pastors and religious workers held regular weekly services in the open air. Each one of these were supplied with Scriptures through the courtesy of the Chicago Bible Society, Auxiliary to the American Bible Society. Each one of these workers made the Scripture distribution a prominent feature of the work. From Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Detroit, Indianapolis, and St. Louis have come in reports of proportionate campaigns of this nature. Probably never before has there been such a systematic and widespread evangelistic effort within the bounds of this Agency. From many different sources we have received enthusiastic reports from these meetings, and in every instance testimony is given to the dynamic influence of the printed Word, which has been widely distributed at these meetings. One pastor writes, "I had always been a little timid about holding open-air meetings. Did not know just how to go about it. I missed the music and settings which I have always used inside the church building. But I found an open and easy access to people through the distribution of the penny Gospels. They were eye openers and ear openers as well as heart openers. Thank you for the supply you sent us." One lady worker said, "The little Gospels made it easy to get started, and they always helped to wind up the meeting. It was never difficult to get the people to accept the booklets and to promise to read them." Another pastor writes, "I built my services completely around the Word, and the penny Gospels were a great help in attracting and holding attention."

A most unique piece of work was thoroughly and efficiently done by the Rev. Claude W. W. Warren, pastor of the Congregational Church in Ashland, Wisconsin. Brother Warren with a singing companion fitted out a "Gospel car," and committing to memory the Ser-

mon on the Mount as a basis for his talks, they toured the Lake areas of northern Wisconsin and had a wonderful time. They were enthusiastically received in hamlet and town and city churches as well. Their plan was to speak every night, preferably in the open and to those who had hitherto been unchurched. They carried Gospels for distribution and are enthusiastic over this form of spending their vacation. In his letters he says: "The men in the bunkhouse [they were in a lumber camp] joined heartily in the singing of the Gospel songs, and each one wanted a Gospel. The boss asked for extra copies to give to the men who were not present that night. * * * Ministers are eager to help and cooperate in the street meetings. * * * The people are hospitable everywhere. We go fishing in the morning if possible. We catch bass by day and men by night. * * * Sunday night at — we had a crowd seated on the grass and in autos in front of the restaurant. One farmer and his wife hearing of our meeting drove eight miles to be present. We distributed the little Gospels, and one boy said he would commit to memory the Sermon on the Mount." Mr. Warren had a wonderful summer, winding up the campaign by establishing a congregation and making provision for a parsonage and church building at a Lake resort in that beautiful north country.

Subdepositories

The Rev. E. W. Jennett has continued in charge of the subdepository in Detroit, and his reports and sales show a steady increase in the service that the Society is rendering to that city by keeping in stock there a suitable assortment of Scriptures for ordinary needs. Apart from attending to his office daily, Brother Jennett does personal solicitation, not only to secure workers under him, but in actual visitation from house to house and supplying Scriptures to needy homes. The increasing numbers of immigrants coming to that rapidly growing city creates a problem that is almost too much for the churches to handle, and emphasizes the necessity for continued support by the Bible Society.

Victor Bjorklund is rapidly becoming the ubiquitous and universally known "Bible man" of the Twin Cities and adjacent parts of Minnesota and surrounding country. His depository in the rooms of the Northwestern Missionary Training School is meriting an increasing patronage, and his sales are mounting higher and higher each year. During the past year he has been able to place Scriptures in a large number of institutions; he is now making a survey of all public institutions in the two cities, with the purpose of supplying them all so far as possible.

Mr. W. L. Smithies maintains our stock of Scriptures in the Y. M. C. A. Building in Duluth, and his circulation increases year by year. Although Mr. Smithies is one of the business men in Duluth, being secretary of the Council of Churches and in every good work

in the city, he feels keenly the supreme importance of putting the Bible into the heart of every project for the uplift of men, and his influence is felt and appreciated by churches, religious workers, and the public at large.

The Rev. Neil Love, with headquarters at Lansing, Michigan, is rounding out his long years of service, and we find that his zeal is in nowise abated. He finds as keen enjoyment in supplying the Scriptures as he did a third of a century ago when he first started into this work.

The Radio

No definite daily Scripture reading is carried on under the auspices of the Agency. However, from several broadcasting stations within the bounds of the Agency regular daily Bible readings are carried on. Prominent among these is the daily devotions being conducted by the Family Altar League, under the patronage of the Central Y. M. C. A. of Chicago. Here every morning a regular twelve to fifteen minutes family altar service is conducted, different clergymen of the city of Chicago conducting the same. Quite a few direct requests for copies of the Scriptures have been traced to the announcements made from these Bible readings.

Promotional Efforts

There are probably 20,000 ordained pastors and licensed religious workers located within the bounds of this Agency. The serious problem confronting the Society is how to secure from each one of these, or from as large a percentage as possible, the fullest cooperation in what we are profoundly convinced is the supreme need of the people, an acquaintance with the Word of the living God. We find many pastors entirely apathetic in regard to the work, saying they "will not be a book agent." Plainly, it is the business of the pastor to "publish glad tidings," and by the printed Word as well as the preached word. And yet it is a common thing to receive a letter from a regularly ordained pastor in charge of a self-supporting, and sometimes wealthy congregation, taking the American Bible Society to task and chiding us because "there isn't a place in this town where we can buy a copy of the Bible"; taking it for granted that the Society should open and maintain a Bible depot in every town within the area. We have striven by letters and by addresses wherever possible to emphasize the responsibility resting upon each organized church to be prepared for just these emergencies, i. e., to have on hand a certain stock of printed Scriptures to meet such demands. A number have responded to this program, but scarcely a beginning has yet been made. Those who have responded are enthusiastic over the results. In this connection, apart from the daily correspondence, we have sent out from our office about 30,000 post cards, and 12,000 letters. Some of the material has borne but little fruit, and some has brought in large rewards. The net results have been sufficient

to have convinced us of the importance and efficacy of this method of "activation," if properly done.

An effort was made to utilize the students from the theological schools as far as possible. Groups from the Moody Bible Institute go out every Sunday, holding meetings in the open air when the weather conditions permit, and at other times in connection with different missions, churches and revivalistic efforts. These consecrated young men and women are always welcome coworkers with their music and their rich personal experience supplanting their direct labors. They have used large numbers of our Gospels, purchasing some, and received others on a grant; and their universal testimony is to the supreme usefulness of these booklets.

The director of practical work in one of our theological seminaries writes, "I want to express my thanks and the thanks of the Seminary for the Gospels of John. I am going to let the students use these Gospels in their practical work, and trust that many people may be reached and blessed."

A student in Minnesota writes, "The happiest day I had this summer was the day I took a package of Bibles and started out to visit some homes in the neighborhood where I was working. It was hard for me to start out. I dreaded it, but felt that it was my duty. Owing to certain family affairs my employer gave us a day off from regular work, and so I decided that come what would, I'd use the day in this work. It was a revelation to me. I am perfectly sure that never before had I so felt the presence of the Master with me. The very first house I visited, — and I was trembling when I knocked at the door, — I was kindly received and as kindly speeded on my way after the lady of the house had purchased a Bible, saying that it was just what she had wanted for years. Only once during the day was I treated at all discourteously; every other time I was not only treated kindly, but in several instances with joy, when they found out what I was doing. It seemed a real example of 'How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of them that bringeth good tidings.' I not only enjoyed the day, but, aside from the slight profit financially, it was of great benefit to me. I count it the very best day I spent all summer."

Office Work

Aside from the increased business which severely taxes the utmost resources of the office and depository force, in the shipping department, the tremendously increased work in the correspondence and bookkeeping departments has about overwhelmed our force completely. At the beginning of the year our daily mail averaged from thirty to forty letters, orders and miscellaneous combined. This has steadily increased, till for the last week of the year, under the impulse of some special circularizing, our daily mail brought in an average of over two hundred letters a day, over half of which contained orders for Scriptures. With the same force that we have had

for several years, it was physically impossible to handle this increased business; though as yet we have not seen the way where we can add to our permanent staff and have been compelled to get along with temporary help from day to day. This is eminently unfair to our overworked force, and means must be provided for a permanently increased force or the work must be allowed to curtail itself through utter inability to care for it. With the means at hand, we have felt that the saturation point has been about reached; and yet, as we study and meditate on the eternal problem of how to meet another demand, how to place another copy of the Scriptures, there has always seemed to open up some new avenue. We hope such may continue to be the case. Without the faithful and efficient services of these who have been in the office for so many years and who know the details of the work, it would be wholly impossible to meet the opportunities that are constantly opening up to us. We owe them a debt of gratitude and thanks for the fidelity and graciousness of their services.

To Minister, Not to Be Ministered Unto

As we have visited the conferences and conventions of ministers, we have sought to bring to their attention the service that the Society can bring to them in the way of providing the Scriptures needed at prices within reason, or even as gifts where absolutely necessary. This appeal has met an enthusiastic response on the part of the pastors and accounts in a large part for the increased patronage of the Society. In this appeal there has been no attempt to antagonize any commercial houses, but the missionary appeal of the Society has been emphasized, and the effort of the Society to keep the Bible as free from commercialism as possible has not been passed over lightly. It has been the steady determination of the Agency to make every religious worker within the bounds of the Agency feel that the Society is right with him or her in the giving of the Scriptures to the people, and that we cooperate with them in every way possible. This is made possible by the fact that the Ways and Means Department of the Society works from the New York Office, and we can come to the churches with no appeal for financial aid other than merely incidentally, and through this offer of services we can make friendships where friendships did not formerly appear. Already we can sense a warmth of heart in many quarters where only coldness was manifest a year ago. May this spirit continue and increase.

Special Appeals

In preparation for Rally Day about 9,000 post cards were sent out to as many pastors. But the results from this were discouragingly small. Whether we sent too late or whether the multigraphed card lacked the dynamics to bring results, we have not been able to determine. At any rate, our large stock of Gospels which we had pre-

pared for that campaign remained in our stockroom, and we met with very small responses to our appeal.

Universal Bible Sunday

For the first time, this year we made a special effort to utilize this anniversary in a much larger way. This was especially pertinent as the theme "The Voice and the Book" lent itself to this effort. We sent out ten thousand post cards, multigraphed, to pastors, calling attention to the day and asked them to cooperate in a wide circulation of the Gospel of John for that day. We suggested that the penny Gospels be secured and placed in the pews for the responsive reading, using the first chapter for the morning lesson; then that each reader be asked to take his or her copy along with him and either keep it as a personal memento of the service, or, what would be much better, give it to some one who needed it. As a result of this circularization we received a total of over 250 orders amounting to almost 100,000 copies of the Gospel. Many of these were from pastors who never before had had direct dealings with the Agency.

This is the day of mass production and of mass consumption in all lines of life. The newspapers have acquired an importance never before even approximated. As a part of the Bible Sunday propaganda in the city of Chicago especially and throughout the Agency we sought newspaper publicity for the day and newspaper publishing of excerpts from the Scriptures. Editorials were prepared and sent to the press, and the same were given wide mention and not a few papers published the excerpts as requested. In the city of Chicago, there are 143 foreign-language papers published regularly. We selected sixty-five of the principal ones, and a representative of the Society visited each one and sought access to the columns of the papers for mention of Bible Sunday and the importance of the Bible in the life of the nation and the lives of the individuals. In seven of these offices we met distinct rebuffs, being requested in no uncertain terms (and in one or two places in very decided terms) to take ourselves away. In twelve we met lukewarm acquiescence. In twenty-three we were graciously welcomed and our material given prominent places in the columns of the periodicals. We have since realized that their publicity has been a very decided help to the work of circulating the Scriptures throughout the Agency.

Bible Reading Revival

Although we had known incidentally of the plan fostered by the Commission on Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches, for the universal simultaneous reading of a chapter a day from the Book of Luke and a chapter a day from Acts, yet we neglected agitation of the plan through circularization till it was almost too late. However, about the middle of December we were able to mail out 8,000 letters and 2,000 post cards urging the general observance of

the plan. In preparation for the orders that might follow, we had in stock about 80,000 copies of the Gospel of Luke, and these were barely sufficient for the first three days' orders that poured in, fairly swamping our all too meager office force. It was a deluge that did not cease till nearly 200,000 copies of the Gospel have been shipped out, and hundreds of churches have sent us in their first order for Scriptures. Aside from their taking these booklets for this special program of Bible reading, we have reason to believe that their awakening along this line and contact with the Society will make more necessary and useful the depository in Chicago.

From the Men on the Field

Although we are not employing professional colporteurs, — men who are salaried by the Society and who give all their time to the Society, — yet we have an ever-increasing number of men who are engaged in the work of giving the Bible to the people and who either do not take any pay at all for their services, making it purely a labor of love, or they receive a small commission depending upon their work and the hardships they must necessarily undergo on account of physical surroundings.

From the letters and reports from these men we gather that the glamour of the Bible distribution is no less than in former years. They are full of enthusiasm, meeting with reproaches seldom, and with open courtesy and honor in the vast majority of cases.

An eighty-four-year-old "distributor" writes, "I have read my Bible through thirty-four times, and now I am reading it through once every year. I find something new in it each time I read it. I am not a preacher or a teacher, but after working a little in my son's garden, I find my greatest joy in visiting the sick in the hospitals and in the homes and distributing the little Gospels and Testaments as I go. I thank you for furnishing them to me for this purpose. I tell the people I am going to heaven soon, and as I have found the way in the blessed Book, I want to tell others about it too."

It being physically impossible for the Society to maintain workers in even a very small fraction of the places in this area, we have sought rather to inspire and arouse volunteer workers in as many parts as possible, and the response has been far beyond our expectations. During the year we have circularized (sending out letters on three occasions and post cards on three more) a total of over 10,000 different pastors within the Agency. We have received responses, most of them being definite orders for Scriptures, from about 3,000 of these circularized. And from many have come most cheering words of appreciation for the services rendered by the Society. One writes: "It has been a real work of grace [the house-to-house visitation of his city, by members of his church]. As we find a home where a Bible is needed, we try to supply them. We could not do that were it not for the wonderful opportunity which the American Bible

Society gives in furnishing us the Bibles for these homes. We have been surprised to find so many homes without Bibles, and even more surprised to find how gladly the volumes are received."

For years a faithful Bible lover has tended his little farm way off there in a distant corner of Missouri, giving three or four months of his time, practically at his own expense, each year to traveling about the beautiful Ozark country, carrying the printed books to the unchurched and untaught of those mountainous regions. He loves his mountain folk and he loves the Book of Life which he circulates there. Having been compelled for health reasons to spend the winter months in the dry Arizona climate, he writes that his body is improving, but that his heart is with his people in the mountain district and he longs for the time when he can return and again take up his beloved work. This is especially typical of the romance and the pull of the task of giving the Bible to a hungry people: once in the work there is no getting away from it.

A veteran Bible distributor in Michigan writes, "I find so many homes without Bibles. Strange, is it not? I know those I supply appreciate my services. Many of the bookstores have Bibles for sale. But the people do not buy them, unless the books are brought to them. I tell the people day after day that the churches of America support the American Bible Society, and that accounts for the prices asked for the books. It is the best recommendation possible for the Society and for the churches as well."

Done in Chicago Itself

A prominent business man here in the city of Chicago reports that about once a week, as he comes into the city for his day's work, he leaves his train at a station inside the city and walks the rest of the way. He carries a pocket full of the penny Gospels and distributes them along the way, selling where sales can be made, but giving freely where he can arouse some interest in the books, but not sufficient for the making of a sale. He says, "It does more to keep my own religious life up to a keen edge than going to church on Sundays."

Another man, employed in one of the big business concerns, has been faithfully following the program of having Gospel portions in his pockets on all occasions, and during the year the total of his sales has been large. One day, noting a couple of colored boys reading from a New Testament, he stopped to inquire the cause of their interest and was met with a broad grin of recognition, and one of the little fellows said, "Don' yo know me, Mister? You shuh give me a Gospel last week, an' after readin' it thru, I went and buyed this New Testament. Never saw one befo'." Who says that seed sowing did not bring forth quick returns.

One prominent Chicago pastor has a standing offer to his Sunday school that, if any member ever finds him without a copy of the

New Testament in his pocket, he will forfeit to the inquirer five dollars. He reports an almost utter inability to go along the streets, since every boy and girl are hailing him, "Hey, Doctor — have you got your Testament?" He says he thinks he will have to wear his Testament suspended in plain sight.

"It is simply wonderful," writes a correspondent, "how many people need the Bible. The Roman Catholics need it, and they will buy if I can only get them to stop long enough to listen to the reading from it. They are deeply affected when they realize that it is God's message to them and not only my own words. They are usually so woefully ignorant of it. The unfortunate in the things of this world need it. I met a young man who is tubercular. He had worked in the shops in Jackson till he could work no longer. His wife is supporting the family. He said he knew so little of the Bible, but that he loved to hear it read. As the things of this world are slipping from his grasp, the things of the spiritual world take on new value. Then the wicked need it, oh so much. I met one such yesterday. He looked like one possessed. But Christ dealt with such when he was here, and his parting words with the demoniac were: 'Go home to thy friends and tell them what great things God hath done for thee.' Oh, to be Christlike!"

One dear saint writes, "I thank God for the wonderful, unselfish work your Society is doing. I hope the American Bible Society will always be an evangel of light in America, and like the white-robed angel which John saw flying through the midst of heaven with the everlasting gospel, so may this white-robed angel of mercy and truth always fly."

A pastor in Missouri writes, "You have started something in this enterprise of getting every member to carry a copy of the Gospel in his pocket for daily reading. For several years I have been half-disheartened over the lukewarm response to my appeals in evangelistic services; but with eighty per cent of my church membership joining enthusiastically in this simultaneous reading, I already sense an awakening of spiritual life. I am sure that great good will come of it; for spiritual power comes not from my poor preaching, but from the living Word, and daily reading from the printed Word will bring the readers into vital touch with the living Word. May your good work go on."

Inspirations

The year's work has been full of inspirational experiences. A larger number of pastors have entered enthusiastically into the work of Bible distribution than ever before. A larger number of volunteer workers have cooperated with us than ever before. A wider publicity has been given in the secular press than ever before, while the religious papers have opened their pages to news items; and both have volunteered notices from time to time.

The repeated public utterances on the part of high officials in the

Government as well as from the pastors in prominent churches, that the need of the hour demands a spiritual revival, has undoubtedly led to a closer scrutiny of the Holy Scriptures and a more familiar acquaintance with them.

Discouragements

Along with the inspirations come certain discouragements as well. The increasing wordliness of so many who have named the name of the Master, and the whirl and passion for pleasures, make Scripture distribution more and more difficult among the classes most affected.

The Eucharistic Congress, which was so widely advertised and so largely attended, did much to make the Roman Catholic population less accessible to the Scriptures, especially within the immediate vicinity of Chicago. From almost every one of our workers we have received testimony to that effect. We have always tried to cater to all alike regardless of faith or creed; but since last June it has been increasingly difficult to secure contact with Roman Catholics in this respect and to arouse their interest in the Scriptures. This shows a definite propaganda within the Roman Catholic Church to that effect.

Signs of Hope

Within the church and in the inner circle of Bible lovers, there is a very definite awakening to the value of the printed Word, and we close the year as we are in the very midst of a Bible reading revival which bids fair to be one of the greatest and most effective means toward a religious revival that have occurred within the church for years. Modern evangelism is being centered around Bible reading as never before. Much of the old-type emotionalism is being supplanted by Bible study.

As this closes my second year of work in connection with this Agency and the twentieth year of work in connection with the Society, I wish to give thanks to Almighty God for the guidance and help which in many ways has made this the best year of all. We have shipped out far more Scriptures this year than ever before in any one year; we have sensed the warmest cooperation on the part of Christian people within the Agency area; we have found the warmest cooperation on the part of coworkers throughout the Agency; and we have labored under the profound conviction that in this very work lies the very hope of the spiritual life of the future. It has been a blessed year in many ways, for all of which we give profound thanks, as we turn to the coming year with renewed hope and zeal and confidence that these words of His that we are broadcasting shall not return to Him void.

SOUTHWESTERN AGENCY

The Southwestern Agency was established in 1907. Its field includes the states of Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 358,003, an increase of 19,915, making a total circulation of 2,514,971 copies since 1907. Twenty-eight persons were employed in Bible distribution during the past year—6 colporteurs and 22 correspondents. A goodly company of 51 voluntary workers also rendered large service. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. J. J. Morgan, 905 Main Street, Dallas, Texas.



DESPITE the failure, in 1926, of its most important crop, — cotton, — this Agency rejoices in an encouraging report. So long accustomed to a homogeneous population, it is not strange that the increasing multiplicity of languages calls forth special remark from the Secretary. Where so long the only languages were English, Spanish, and French, with a few American Indian dialects, now the Scriptures are called for in forty-one languages. The circulation again advances over that of the previous year, the chief proportion of advance being in New Testaments, over 34 per cent, 34,362 Testaments being circulated in 1926 as against 25,152 in the year before. The report is particularly rich in instances of the direct influence of the Scriptures on individual lives; but the most stimulating and unusual tale is that of “the lumber baron” who placed Bibles in 2,000 homes, with a letter from himself to each of his employees thus supplied. The story will be found toward the end of the report.

The Southwestern Agency reports a gain in distribution of Scriptures amounting to 18,815 volumes, the total volumes circulated during the year 1926 being 357,903 over against 338,088 in 1925. The first six months of the year indicated a distribution of 400,000; but the heartbreaking fall in the price of cotton greatly retarded the expected advance. We did well to advance at all.

The Failure of King Cotton

King Cotton had already failed us in 1925, so that this was his second failure in succession. Cotton is the cash crop in the Southwest. Chiefly affected by these failures were Texas and Oklahoma.

We heard a Methodist pastor reporting to an Annual Conference thus: "Twice I collected money required by the Conference, and twice I lost it through the failure of banks." This was in Oklahoma.

Oil Fields Are Productive

The oil fields saved the day for business in general, as well as for the church collectively. Wherever there were oil wells, collections were in full, and sometimes over. But the oil business does not materially boost Bible distribution. In the first place, the number of employees in the oil fields is not large; and in the second place, the production is largely in the hands of large corporations, which care little for the Book. We thank God for the few exceptions.

Bible Lovers Multiply

But money is not, however, our chief dependence in the circulation of Scriptures. The zeal and the number of Bible workers are the most important factors. Our records show an increasing army of volunteers and correspondents whom we like to call Bible Lovers. Their love for the Book sends them out in all sorts of weather, under all sorts of circumstances to seek out those who need God's Word, — in the slums of the city, in the great office buildings, on cattle ranches of Texas prairies, in the farming districts, in the oil fields, in the mining camps, among the mountaineers of the Ozarks, along the Gulf coast seaports, and especially all along the Mexican border. From all these places we have reports telling us of the visits of Bible Lovers. Their "tribe" is increasing in the Southwest, and oh, how we do need them! The most hopeful sign in these parts is the growing number of folk who are distributing God's Word, expecting no reward other than the joy of seed-sowing, and the consciousness of having extended the Kingdom a bit further.

The Bible Is Distributed in 41 Languages

Immigration to the United States has been greatly curtailed through strict Immigration Laws, but these laws have little effect upon the tide of newcomers to the Southwest. This applies particularly to the ever-increasing immigration from Mexico. Government reports on Mexican immigration can be multiplied, no one knows how much, for Mexicans ford the Rio Grande illegally in numerous places. But increase in population is due not only to immigration from the outside, but also to immigration from other states. Kings of industry and finance, as well as farmers, merchants, mechanics, and also vagabonds from the North and the East see in the Southwest the end of the rainbow. Ranches are being transformed into towns and cities as if by magic, especially in the oil fields and in the Rio Grande Valley.

That the American Bible Society is endeavoring to reach all these people is indicated from the fact that it distributed Scriptures

among them in forty-one different languages not including Scriptures for the blind. They were as follows:

Arabic	Danish	Muskogee
Armenian	Dutch	Norwegian
Armeno-Turkish	English	Polish
Bicol	Flemish	Portuguese
Bulgarian	French	Roumanian
Cebuan	German	Russian
Cherokee	Greek	Ruthenian
Chinese:	Hebrew	Slovak
Wenli	Hungarian	Slovenian
Easy Wenli	Icelandic	Spanish
Canton-Colloquial	Italian	Swedish
Choctaw	Japanese	Syriac
Croatian	Korean	Welsh
Czechoslovakian	Latin	Yiddish

Oklahoma

Let us take a flying trip around our territory, beginning with Oklahoma. Our first obligation here is toward the Indians, of which there are about one hundred thousand. The progress toward education and civilization in general has been marvelous as far as the young people are concerned. They read and sing in English and pride themselves in carrying out our customs in general; but the older folk like to keep up their tribal languages and customs. We must see to it that their insistent demand for the white man's Book of Life in their native tongues is provided.

Through valuable correspondents we were able to minister to the 25,000 foreign-speaking people who live and work in the coal mining fields of Oklahoma and Arkansas. If we have any Bolsheviks living in the Southwest, they are in this territory. Home missionaries find our Scripture portions most valuable in their personal work. We were glad to donate liberal quantities for this purpose. The chief nationality is the Slav. We regret that our nine-linguist colporteur could not be secured for work in this region.

Rev. D. H. Colquette—"The Man with the Bible"

Under the soubriquet of "The Man with the Bible" our agent for Arkansas, the Reverend D. H. Colquette, distributed 39,496 volumes. The Ozark Mountains have claimed a big portion of Mr. Colquette's seed-sowing. There is perhaps no richer soil for the Word than is found in the homes of these rugged mountaineers.

The depository at Little Rock has proved a godsend to all missionary workers of Arkansas. From this depository 36,543 volumes of Scripture were sold, and 2,953 were donated. Most of these went to pastors and Sunday-school workers in mission territory. The depository is in high favor with leaders in both state and church.

Women Prisoners Receive Bibles for Christmas

"Thank you so much for the Bibles," writes Miss Mary V. Berry,

supervising nurse of the Arkansas State Farm for Women. "I wish you could have been here to see the girls when they received them. They told me they would rather have that than anything else that could be given them outside a pardon from the governor. Some of them never owned one in their lives.

"Always week nights before they go to bed they stand and say the Lord's Prayer and sing a Gospel song. As I pass the girls after they are locked up for the night, I see many of them kneeling beside their beds in prayer."

In various ways, chiefly through local workers, we are reaching the oil fields. The chief activity in oil drilling is in Texas and Oklahoma; but a large field has been developed in Louisiana near Shreveport, and also in Arkansas at El Dorado.

A Visit to El Dorado

Especially to those who have never seen an oil field and experienced its godless thrills the following letter from Mr. Colquette will be interesting. He gives a vivid picture of the rabble and deviltry which inevitably attaches to new oil fields:

"I am looking on the oil fields a little, spent three days down at El Dorado. Everything is full up down there, even the jails and hospitals. The whole situation is overwhelming. The sad thing about it is that this rush and development does not seem to produce character. Anything whatever that fails to produce character is a failure.

"The church needs an army of missionaries here. With these the situation could not be fully met. So far as I know, we have no missionaries in these fields. Instead, the churches are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on great buildings, but are failing to reach the masses of people in tents and huts all about them. I am doing what I can to reach them through some pastors and evangelists. I reckon civilization needs the oil fields, but the oil fields do not civilize."

Louisiana Depository — G. A. Perkins, Agent

From our depository at New Orleans comes the following good report by our agent, G. A. Perkins:

"The distribution of Scriptures was 2,599 Bibles, 6,701 Testaments, and 60,740 portions, a total of 70,240 volumes, of which 10,785 volumes were donated at a cost of \$451.23. Receipts for sales amounted to \$2,824.25. Not a penny of profit was made in the sales.

"At the Lafayette Square we presented for Christmas 5,000 portions of the Scriptures to underprivileged children.

"When Louisiana was admitted to the Union in the year 1812, there was a long search for a Bible on which to administer the oath of office. Ultimately a priest offered his copy of the Latin Vulgate. It was estimated that there were at least 78,000 homes in which no copy of the Scripture was available. But since then times have

changed, and there is an average of 186 volumes of Scripture, 10 per cent of which is for free distribution, leaving this little sub-depository every day in the year, God be praised."

Distributes Scripture Portions in Midnight Hours

Our New Orleans Agent has done another one of his stunts, namely, put on a midnight campaign. Read what he says about this, and, if you can sacrifice sleep, go and do likewise:

"There are thousands of jazz mad night revelers who roam the streets of New Orleans by night. The church can not reach these people, and if they are ever saved, we will have to go to them; they will never come to us. I decided to try to reach some of these people by giving our Scriptures at night between the hours of 9 p.m. and 3 a.m. I found the results most gratifying. Between these hours we have distributed 5,458 volumes of Scripture."

The window of Mr. Perkins' little depository located at 900 St. Charles Street is a reproduction of our best-known poster, "The Only Way Out of the Dark," with a sign, "Christ Is the Light of the World," just above. This illuminated at night, thus impressing these same night prowlers to whom Mr. Perkins gives out Scriptures at night.

Seamen Get Scriptures

New Orleans is one of the leading seaports of America. Ships come there from all parts of the world, bringing people of all nationalities. The Bible can be given to the nations of the earth from this great commercial center. Mr. Perkins visits steamships and distributes Scriptures to officers and crews alike. Sometimes they clamor to shake hands with the "sky pilot."

Bibles for Prisoners

The chaplain of the Louisiana penitentiary is very grateful for a grant of Bibles and writes as follows:

"In behalf of the prisoners I wish to thank you and the American Bible Society very much. It is certainly a great thing to try to save those who have become entangled in sin, see the error of their way, and want to begin right by a return to the Bible."

A dear hard-working woman writes the Louisiana depository her grateful appreciation for a Bible.

"A thousand thanks, also God's grace and blessings be yours, for your gift to me of the Holy Bible. So long I wanted one, but it looked as though my funds barely met. I worked only three nights a week, and managed to pay my room rent. I also acknowledge the return of fifty cents. That will supply my bread for the week; so instead of one gift, you have given two. This morning I started my first chapter of the Holy Book, and I hope to continue the same the rest of my days."

Texas

In our flying trip through the Southwest we turn now to Texas, where we have at Dallas the headquarters of our Agency. By the way, at this date of writing, January 31, 1927, we are moving our Bible depository and Agency offices from 911 Main to 905 Main Street. To one and all of our readers we extend a cordial invitation to visit us.

We have already mentioned the tremendous increase in population in Texas, and in so many former "stories" we have enlarged on the bigness of the state. Great is the temptation to enlarge still further, but really Texas is big enough. As we grow older, we feel inclined to charity toward our neighbors. We will be content to give you now just a few sketches of work done within this empire state.

The Bible at the Texas State Fair

The generous and active cooperation of Christian forces in Dallas enabled us to put on an unusually attractive and successful booth at the Texas State Fair. The churches paid for the exhibit space, and Bible Classes contributed liberally toward meeting other expenses. Well-known Christian people acted as hosts and hostesses and added to the attraction. The prominent location of the booth and its beautiful setting at the corner of two large passways, one of which was right at the main entrance to the central exhibit building, had much to do with our success.

The Bible Society donated a generous supply of interesting leaflets, such as "The Only Way Out of the Dark," "John 3:16," "Wilson on the Bible," "Bryan on the Bible," and 10,000 portions of Scripture. This literature and the Gospels were all exhausted before the close of the fair, and further supplies were drawn from the stock of the Agency. Those who had taken Gospels or literature from the booth would tell others. It was interesting to note how children would bring their parents and would begin explaining the exhibit just as they had heard the story from our helpers on Children's Day.

The success of the exhibition was far beyond our expectation. The interest in it was almost unbelievable. On Bible Day the weather was ideal, and approximately 10,000 portions of Scripture were distributed free to those who visited the exhibit. There was not a word of criticism; there was only praise and deep appreciation.

Wayward Girls

No class of people more keenly appreciate the good offices of the American Bible Society than inmates of the rescue homes. Mrs. R. L. Culbertson, superintendent of the San Antonio Mission Home and Training School, writes us of their deep appreciation for Bibles sent them, "forty precious vessels full of life and light and love to be poured into lives full of death, darkness, and despair," she calls them. We give the following stories just as Mrs. Culbertson wrote them to us:

"I must tell you of just one typical case: 'Crazy Fannie,' as this poor, sin-distracted creature was called, came to the home so full of despair, that she later told me she was a fit subject for the insane asylum; and her people brought her to the home, meaning to shut her away forever as soon as her child was born. She would walk up and down the dining-room, brandishing a butcher knife, daring anyone to come near. She became a very devoted student of the Bible, and to-day she can repeat chapter after chapter. God's work of grace had its perfect work in her heart. Admired and devotedly loved by the great class of noble friends that surround this home, she refused \$75 a month because she felt herself in His service; for she had become a real missionary here, and all knew that she would have laid down her life to serve poor girls, sin-wounded as she had been.

"Ruth, a girl who heard me pray in a jail and voluntarily came to this home, typed this letter. When she was fourteen she was sent to Gainesville, where she studied typing a short time. Since then the devil has had his terrible will of her sweet life. Only this morning she gave her heart to Him. I have used her as my stenographer, especially to pour into her poor, sin-wounded and despairing heart such truths as this letter contains. I brought her and three others from Wichita Falls. She had come there from a life of sin in Fort Worth."

The Bible in the Public Schools

Trustees of the Austin public schools have placed Bibles on the teachers' desks in each room of their schools. They have arranged a program of daily Bible reading, one which will not conflict with anyone's denominational preference; for the Scripture is read without note or comment. The selections are made with a view to character building and a study of Christ's teachings in addition to selections read for their literary value.

San Antonio, Tulsa, and some other cities in the Southwest are carrying out a similar program.

The Bible Car

Mr. O. H. Bettes has traveled over thirty-six States and parts of Canada and Mexico in his specially built Bible car, equipped with literally everything necessary for a modern home. Thus he takes his lares and penates on strange sojourns, yea, even unto Pike's Peak, the White House, and right on to the Bible House in New York City, where he received a most cordial reception.

The Story of One Gospel

Mr. Bettes leaves a trail of Gospels in his path. A few months ago a little Book of John, left in a little east Texas town, fell into the hands of a Christian, an influential banker. Employed in this man's office was a promising young man, unfortunately possessed of one besetting sin—he was an almost confirmed drunkard. No

amount of persuasion availed, and Sunday morning usually found him in jail, sobering up from Saturday night's debauch.

One Sunday morning his good friend and employer visited him there, to remonstrate once more, uselessly he thought; but when ready to leave, suddenly recalling the little Gospel of John in his pocket, he gave it to the boy. When a short time ago Mr. Bettes was again through the little town, this Christian banker told him the story, with this denouement. The poor boy read the little Gospel and even as the prodigal son "came to himself," and the usual Sunday morning in jail where he fed on husks has changed to one where he sits at the table in his father's house, an honored son.

The Bible Woman in Dallas

For a short time we were fortunate in securing the services of Mrs. J. F. Moore, who for years has done personal work in Dallas. Excerpts from her diary show with what tact and perseverance she went about her work:

"Worked on Lamesa, Montgomery, and Henning Streets. I think I never saw such poverty of body and spirit; but, in spite of their hunger and cold, they will listen eagerly as you give them verse after verse, and the little children with their grimy faces and sticky hands will quit their play and crowd around you to listen. The women seemed to have never known that His Word is true and that He can help. When you go back with the Bible, they have bright faces and testimonies, and things are cleaner about their places.

"I was asked to come to the 1200 block on Coleman Street. I visited both sides of the block and found three families without Bibles and two without God. One woman drank in the Word, and, as she was so tired of her load of sin, she began weeping. I gave her the Bible, showed her the finished work of God and that he had provided salvation for all who would accept. We had a prayer. 'Oh, I accept, and He has forgiven my sins,' she cried. I left her with the Bible hugged to her heart.

"One little woman said, 'We are very poor, and I prayed that God would give me a Bible for Christmas and that I would ask for nothing else. Here he has sent you to me with this nice Bible. Oh, I thank him so much.'

"Walked three blocks over to Montgomery and delivered five Bibles. They all seem hungry and thirsty for the Scriptures like the rest. Each one said that they could never have bought one.

"Delivered ten Bibles to homes that had none. The first was to a young lady, unsaved, who has tuberculosis. I said, 'Won't you accept Christ and his salvation, and this will guide you safely home?' She clasped the book in her hands and cried, 'Oh, I want to.' I prayed and left her happy.

"Visited a woman who had been hurt in the cotton mill and was a Christian. She had not been to church in years and years and

had no Bible in the home. After teaching her out of God's Word how to confess and come back, she was happily restored to the Lord and cried with joy over having such a nice Bible.

An Old Woman's First Whole Bible

"Visited an old woman sixty-nine years old, who had never had a whole Bible, just a Testament her father had given her when she was only ten years old. 'Just to think of me having all of His Word now; yet He has kept me so many years,' she crooned as she clasped the Bible I gave her to her bosom. 'Now I am so happy that I just wish I could do something for you.'

Jews Accept the Whole Bible

"I gave the whole Bible in Yiddish to a young Jew and his wife. He said, 'I no understand how you do it.' I explained how, by accepting salvation, Christ had provided that we were saved; and, by reading the Word it shows us how to live right; that all churches gave money to the American Bible Society, and that was why I could give him a Bible. 'No good,' he said sorrowfully, beating on his breast, meaning he was not saved. They urged me to come again and read and explain the Bible. We have not gone to the lost sheep of Israel, and they are hungry for the Bread of Life.

"I Never Got Away from the Bible"

"Today I had a call to visit a woman in whose home I held prayer meeting eight years ago and where she ridiculed me and scoffed at religion. But to-day she cried out, 'Forgive me, for I made fun of you. But I never got away from the Bible. What you read to me burned into my mind, until I cried to God for mercy, and I wanted you to know I was never happy until I found God. It was the Bible that brought me to him.'"

Blind Students' Bibles, Lost in Fire, Replaced

When the men's dormitories burned at Southern Methodist University in the spring of this year, two blind young ministerial students lost all their books, including their Bibles. It was good to see their joy at receiving, free of all cost, two complete Bibles, one in English Braille and one in New York Point Print from our Society.

Two Thousand Homes Given Bibles by Lumber Baron

It is not only the preacher, the poor, the needy laborer, the sick, and those who are in trouble, but kings of finance as well who recognize and attest to the worth of the Scriptures. In our territory there is a lumber baron, Mr. John H. Kirby, who so esteems the Book of Books, that this Christmas he distributed to the employees of the mills and camps of his lumber interests in Texas and in Louisiana, more than two thousand volumes all told, an expensively bound Bible, each bearing a facsimile of Mr. Kirby's signature and the following inscription:

"The general diffusion of the Bible is the most effectual way to civilize and humanize mankind; to purify and exalt the general system of public morals; to give efficacy to the just precepts of all law; to emphasize the wisdom of prudence, honesty, and fortitude; and to improve all the relations of international, social, and domestic life. To the Bible we are indebted for the progress made in true civilization, and to its influence we must look for guidance in the future.

"The Bible is the light of the understanding, the joy of the heart, the fullness of hope, the clarifier of affections, the consoler of sorrow, the guide of the soul, the lamp of the feet, the light of the pathway, the telescope sent from heaven to reveal to the eye of man the way of life here and the amazing glories of the hereafter.

"I speak as a man of the world to men of the world when I say the Bible is the Book of Books and needs to be read by all ages and in all conditions of human life. I gladly subscribe my sincere faith in, and love for, the Holy Bible and would commend it to the earnest perusal and affectionate regard of all my friends. In keeping with the sentiments herein expressed, it affords me great pleasure to present to you this volume of the Holy Scriptures, with expression of my good wishes and enduring love."

WESTERN AGENCY

The Western Agency was established in 1907, being first known as the Central Agency. The field includes the states of Colorado, Kansas, Kansas City, Mo., Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 259,881, an increase of 161,328, making the total circulation 1,209,115 copies. Twenty persons were employed in the work of distribution during 1926—5 colporteurs and 15 correspondents; aided by 44 voluntary workers. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. A. F. Ragatz, D.D., 1515 Larimer Street, Denver, Colorado.



FROM this Agency comes the report of the largest increase in circulation achieved by any Agency during the year. The total of 98,000 in 1925 has been surpassed by a total of 259,000 in 1926, considerably more than 200 per cent increase. The great bulk of the increase has been, as elsewhere, in portions, and this unusual increase was largely due to the initiative and activity of one enthusiast in the Agency. The story has been told in different ways, and through different mediums, of the "chapter-a-day" campaign inaugurated by the Rev. Jesse M. Bader; as a result of which 125,000 copies of the Book of Acts, alone, were circulated by this one Agency. This report, like others from this source, has some choice incidents. The story of the "elderly Hollander," whose silent, generous, and effective work in circulating Hebrew Bibles spread so mysteriously, is good reading indeed. So also will be found the story of the Burnt Bible and of the Atheist, and of "Wigwagging the Glad Tidings," to mention a few of the stimulating and touching incidents of the year's work recorded in the pages that follow.

Babson says, "There are two kinds of discontent: the kind that breeds greed, dissatisfaction, and jealousy, and the kind that is a constant inspiration to greater effort for better things."

A Marvelous Increase

Reviewing the year's work of the Western Agency in the light of the latter part of Mr. Babson's definition, one is led to believe that

people in the Rocky Mountain states have been affected with discontent; for there seems to have been a widespread "inspiration to greater effort for better things." To what extent this condition has obtained may be seen from the fact that during the year 1926 this Agency has increased its circulation 263 per cent above the highest total ever reported before in a single year.

A Powerful Conviction

Many earnest men and women having the conviction that a universal revival of reading God's Word would have a salutary effect upon society in general, have assisted in a widespread effort to place the Scriptures in the hands of all people hitherto unsupplied. They have come from many walks of life: teachers, merchants, bankers, and, of course, religious workers of every kind and faith. It has been intensely interesting to read the many letters received during the year from these various groups. In some instances much space was used in stating their conviction and submitting proofs that the Bible was not being generally read, and declaring their belief that a general return to Scripture reading would be a blessing to everyone. Some letters made it plain that the writers did not place much faith in the Bible as a religious book, but did lay great stress on its moral and literary value. Some commercial concerns bought the Book of Proverbs, and several bought the Gospel of John, to give to their employees because of the "fine moral and ethical precepts applicable to modern business methods" contained therein. The following statements made by some of these purchasers explaining why they were buying portions are alike interesting and illuminating:

A Variety of Reasons

"It" (the book they were ordering) "may lead them" (the people to whom the portions were given) "to a personal acquaintance with Jesus Christ."

"It will set before them the highest moral standard known among men."

"It will teach them to be courteous."

"It will teach them to be thrifty."

"It will show them that truth and honesty have their own rewards."

"It will teach them the golden rule."

"It will place before them the law of 'love thy neighbor as thyself,' which is the only law that will ever outlaw war."

The Personal Challenge

There are always a large number of churches, missions, Sunday schools, hospitals, jails, and other institutions and organizations that ask for quantity grants; but this year we have had an unusual number of people who felt called upon to do personal work and wanted Scrip-

tures to give to individuals who were either unable or unwilling to buy their own. For instance, we sent a number of Bibles to a Sunday-school teacher, who had undertaken the task of calling on every family in her town, inquiring if they had a Bible. In one of her letters she asked if we would please send a Bible as a grant for a widow with seven children, whose only income was a \$12 monthly pension and out of which she had to pay \$4 per month rent.

This is by no means an unusual case. We have had many calls of this kind during the year. What a pleasure it is, to be able to send the Books of hope, joy, and comfort to hungry, needy hearts like these!

A Wonderful Campaign

I have gone into this phase of our year's work with careful thoroughness; for I have felt that there must be some way to account for the remarkable increase in our distribution, and hoped that the real cause might be discovered and made use of in subsequent years.

Of course, the one large factor in our increase was the remarkable campaign put on, during February, by the United Christian Missionary Society, through its secretary of evangelism, Dr. Jesse M. Bader. His objective was to put the Book of Acts into the hands of every member of his denomination. His slogan was "Twenty-eight days in February: twenty-eight chapters in the Book of Acts—read a chapter a day and keep the tempter away." The idea caught fire, and churches, Sunday schools, missionary societies, men's classes, pastors, and individual church members sent orders for the Book of Acts. Most of these orders called for dozens or hundreds; while here and there a church, having caught the vision, ordered not only enough to supply its own membership, but, enlisting the cooperation of other denominations, ordered as many as 10,000 copies for a single city. The result of this wide campaign was that through it the Western Agency sent out 124,803 copies of the Book of Acts.

The Voice of the Pulpit

Returning to the question of our increased distribution, and deducting the number of copies put out by and through this remarkable campaign, the remaining total still exceeds by 37 per cent the highest distribution ever reached in any previous year, and leaves several tens of thousands of copies in excess of the normal distribution. To have a thousand or more pulpits warning against the lack of Bible reading, urging people everywhere to read the Word, must bear fruit to the glory of God and create a deeper interest in his Book. So I doubt not that much of our increase is indirectly attributable to those ringing appeals in behalf of a wider use of the Scriptures.

This year has again demonstrated that God is always ready to use and bless the efforts of those who are willing to place themselves under the guidance of his Spirit. I am becoming more and more convinced that the greatest asset a colporteur can have is his willingness

to cooperate with God, to the extent of being constantly directed and led by the Holy Spirit. Salesmanship, keen logic, argumentative ability, — all these, valuable and essential as they may be, — when relied upon to the exclusion of that vital, close fellowship with God fall short in meeting the supreme test of true colportage. I think the following incident is a case in point.

Who Used the Hebrew Bibles?

For a long time we had been supplying Hebrew Scriptures to the pastor of a Dutch Reformed church. We often wondered what he did with them, until one day an elderly Hollander came to our office and asked for some of these same Bibles. He told us that for a long time he had been procuring his Bibles through his pastor, but, now that he had disposed of his ranch and was living in town, he would get his books from us direct.

We asked what he did with the Bibles and were informed that he had given them to some of his Jewish friends. Finding us genuinely interested in his work, he told us the following story:

His extensive ranch near the city was an ideal place to raise cattle, and he specialized in raising veal. Not desiring to take his calves to market, he soon built up a trade with Jewish butchers, who came to his ranch, slaughtered the calves there, and then took them to the city. Now, as everyone familiar with Hebrew customs knows, there are certain ceremonial rites to be observed in slaughtering animals to be used for food. He was much impressed with the conscientious care taken in the observance of these rites, nor did he ridicule or make light of them. In fact, his respectful attitude soon won the admiration and confidence of his Jewish customers.

There then came to this deeply religious Hollander a longing to bring spiritual and Christian help to these men; but there was an obstacle in his way. His wife did not share his missionary spirit; in truth, she was decidedly opposed to it. Her objection became so positive, that he had to do his missionary work surreptitiously. Thus it happened that he procured his Scriptures through his pastor. The minister would manage on Sunday to conceal one or more copies in this man's auto, and when he returned from church he would hide the Bibles in his barn, until he had a chance to dispose of them.

For Fear of the Jews

One of the Bibles was given to an interested Jew, who, for fear of having his companion know that he was reading the Christian's Bible, accepted the gift on condition that nothing be said about it by the donor. To further guard against this fact becoming known among his Jewish neighbors, he cautioned his wife to keep it a secret. The wife being somewhat anxious about her husband taking such an interest in this mysterious book decided to determine for herself what it was all about. After several days during which she found time to

read the Gospels and some of the Epistles, she found herself strangely absorbed in a new world of thought.

Again and again she desired to call in an older woman who lived next door and who was her closest friend and advisor; but mindful of her pledge to her husband she restrained the impulse. However, one day as she was deeply immersed in her reading, the neighbor made a backdoor call. No one responding to her friendly knock, she entered the house, and before the younger woman became aware of her coming the older woman stood at her side.

A moment of consternation and embarrassment followed for the younger woman who had thus been caught in the very act of reading the forbidden book. The older woman soon dispelled all fear by happily exclaiming that she, too, had been reading a Bible that her husband had brought home. Each woman had pledged secrecy, but had inadvertently divulged her secret to the other, and henceforth they spent much time together in reading and discussing the New Testament in its fulfillment of the promises and prophecies of the old covenant.

The Secret Is Out

As time went on our Dutch missionary found other Jews who became interested, and additional Bibles were distributed with a pledge of secrecy to each one. There came a day when three of these Jews to whom Bibles had been given were at the ranch. The business transacted, one of them managed to get the Hollander into the barn for a private talk. The Jew told him how the reading of the New Testament had affected his outlook upon life; how he was struggling to accept Christ as his Saviour, and so absorbed were they, that neither of them heard one of the other Jews approach. Of a sudden this other man was there, and a little later the third one appeared.

The open Bible in the hands of the Hollander plainly indicated the nature of the first man's errand, and in a few minutes the three Jews knew that each of them had been secretly reading the same book. There was no further need of secrecy, and each began to tell the other what a great change had been wrought in his individual life by reading this wonderful story of Jesus Christ. It also developed that two of these men wanted additional Bibles; one for his son-in-law, and the other for his neighbor. The third man had come to ask the Hollander to speak to his friend, one of those present, not knowing that his friend already had a copy of the highly prized Book.

Spreading the News

There was great rejoicing and much telling of how their wives had become interested in the Scriptures — telling that in each of these homes, after children had been put to bed, the parents read to one another and discussed the strange new doctrine. In each instance certain close, circumspect neighbors had been invited to listen to the Word and join the discussion.

Just how far this influence will reach, and what will finally come of it, only God knows. Already one of these families has moved to a nearby city and reports that through their efforts several other families are interested, and asks that Bibles be sent them for distribution among their newly found Jewish friends.

Through Fire and Water

One of our colporteurs was gladly received in the home of a poor family. The mother, surrounded by several small children, said she was very anxious to buy a Bible if its price were not too high. She soon found one within her means, and as she paid for it said, "Now I'll be able to read all of it." The colporteur asked what she meant by the remark and was shown the remains of a Bible that had been more than half destroyed by fire. Many pages both front and back were gone, and the entire bottom of the Bible was burned off. Not a single whole page remained; yet through this dilapidated fragment of Holy Scripture a man and his wife had been led to Christ, had united with a nearby mission, and were heroically reconstructing their lives along the Christian lines and principles laid down in the Book.

The burned Bible had a history. This man had been hired to clear the debris out of a cellar of a house that had been destroyed by fire. So complete had been the destruction that nothing but the charred remains of an old trunk was found in the water-filled cellar. In this trunk the only thing that was not utterly destroyed was the Bible, which seemed of no value whatever and was therefore thrown aside. An officer was there in search of something to identify the man who had occupied the house; for the fire had been caused by the explosion of an illicit still. The owner had given a fictitious name when he rented the house and could not be found. However, the officer, picking up this remnant of Bible, found on the family record page between the Old and New Testaments a presentation inscription written by a mother to her son, giving his name and date of his leaving home.

The officer carefully removed this page, and with its information soon found the man who for twenty years had forgotten his Bible and his mother's God. Moved by some strange impulse, the workman placed the charred remains of the book in his empty dinner pail and took it home. After showing it to his wife and telling its story, he was about to put it into the stove, when he was prevented from so doing by his wife who wanted to look at it. Thus, after the evening meal was over, she began to read such portions as were left. They were immediately interested, and not long thereafter the man and his wife timidly entered the little mission where soon they were won to Christ. Now they were feeling their need of a "whole Bible."

A Man Who Hated the Bible

"I wouldn't accept your Bible as a gift. I wouldn't allow one to

remain in my house, if you paid me for doing so. It's full of lies, obscenities and rank superstition," said a man to the colporteur who had called upon him.

Before the colporteur could make a reply the man added: "If I had my way, I'd burn every Bible, tear down every church, and compel every preacher to make an honest living by working for what he got; for, you see, I'm an atheist, and I've uncovered their fraud."

The colporteur knew of a certain minister in that town who for months had fearlessly led a campaign against graft, lawlessness, and vice. He named this preacher and asked, "Don't you think Dr.— has earned his board?" The atheist instantly replied, "Certainly I do. I admire his courage and stand by him in his crusade, in spite of his being a preacher. Oh, I admit there are a few ministers who mean well and do some good." Then he added, "Say, by the way, I've got something one of those preachers wrote that's mighty fine—the old boy who wrote that surely knows his stuff—I wonder if you can tell me who he is. I'd like to hear him some time."

Who Wrote the Beatitudes?

All the while this man was looking through a pile of papers on his desk, searching for what he said was "an extract from a sermon." He said, "You, being acquainted with the preachers, perhaps will be able to tell me who preached it; for I'd like to know if he has anything more like that to say." The clipping was found, a two-column boxed quotation from—the Sermon on the Mount.

The colporteur read it, drew from the atheist the admission that "if the church believed in such a doctrine, or preached such a gospel, or if the Bible had anything like that to offer its readers in place of its exploded myths, falsehoods and superstitions, he would no longer oppose them." And then, opening his Bible to the fifth chapter of Matthew, he began to read Christ's sermon on the mount.

The atheist came over to the colporteur and followed the lines, finally taking the Bible into his own hands and reading several chapters. Turning to the colporteur, he said, "I must confess that the only knowledge I have ever had of this book has come to me through those who didn't believe in it. I was raised in such a home, have confined my reading to that kind of literature, and have associated with people who believed as I did. I have never before in my life read a chapter out of this book." Needless to say the man bought a Bible, and without a doubt has discovered many things of interest in its pages. We can only hope that he has read with an open heart those promises, which, if accepted by him, will mean the saving of his soul.

The Boys' Friend

A worker from a western town recently wrote, "I have called at

every house in this town and have placed Bibles and Testaments in all but a few homes, where they refused to accept them. I love to work with boys and have made this town my headquarters. While working all the surrounding country, I have had opportunity to make friends with practically all the boys in the town. I got a group of them together one evening, told them stories and recited Scripture passages to them. When I got through that night, I told them I would be back in town the next week, agreed to meet them in the schoolhouse, and promised them more stories if they would all be there and bring others with them.

"On the appointed night, when I came to the schoolhouse I found to my delight that the room was full of boys all eager to hear more stories. After a delightful evening had been spent, I briefly told them about the New Testament and offered to give a copy to every boy who would promise to read it through within a month. The response was enthusiastic: 84 boys solemnly promised, and received their Testaments.

"I did not return to the town for nearly two weeks. Arriving in the afternoon, I told such boys as I met that I would like to have a meeting with them that night. The little fellows by some means spread the news, and that evening they were all present. More than that: nearly a score of them had read their Testaments through, and all the rest had made splendid progress. It was refreshing and very amusing to hear groups of boys arguing on some Scriptural point, and see them take their Testaments and prove by chapter, verse and word that they were right, or perchance admit their error."

The Lonesome Spaces

Those of us who do not have a first-hand knowledge of frontier conditions can not imagine how hungry the isolated settlers get for contact with the world and its many interests. Our workers often visit homes where the mother and her children have not been off the ranch for years. Often these homes do not even take a newspaper or magazine, and as to callers, well, the nearest neighbor may live from thirty to fifty miles away, and that means that there are no callers.

Imagine what it means to such homes to have a colporteur come and spend the evening visiting, and leave a Bible when he goes. Some of our colporteurs carry with them all the surplus Sunday-school literature they are able to get from city churches, and distribute the same among these lonesome people.

One of our men reports that he was traveling through such a country when he met two small boys. In his conversation with them he learned that their home was some six or more miles "off the trail." He gave them a Gospel of John and some Sunday-school papers, and promised that, should he return that way within "about a week or so," he would call at their home.

Wigwagging the Glad Tidings

He did return "that way" and, when he was still miles distant from this point, he saw an object in violent motion. Nearing the scene he discerned a boy wigwagging his sweater toward another object stationed on an elevation some miles from the trail.

He soon came up to the boy, who excitedly told him to "please wait a bit until my ma comes." Our man discovered that for two days this boy had watched the trail for the returning colporteur. When he saw him, he signaled his brother on the hill, who in turn signaled "ma" some three miles farther away. True to the boy's statement, within a few minutes "ma" was seen astride a horse galloping over the hill toward the trail.

After greeting the colporteur, the woman said, "I knew you were a good man by the wonderful book and papers you gave my little boys, and I've been waiting for you to come back; for I want to thank you for the present, and I want you to come to my house, have dinner with us and talk with us. My husband will be home soon."

Hungry hearts and minds and lives longing for companionship with the outside world — waiting days and months, yes, sometimes years, for some one to pass along the trail and leave behind them a rich treasure of new thoughts, new hopes, and, as in this instance, a book from whose pages flows the inexhaustible river of life!

Three Accidents

Three of our workers during this last year have had more or less serious accidents. In the early spring E. K. Christensen, while putting up a Bible Society sign over the door of a building where he had a stock of Scriptures for sale during a revival meeting, fell from a ladder and injured his spine. Though he spent some time in a hospital and had the best of medical care, he has not wholly recovered from his injuries.

A few months later, while riding on his bicycle, the Rev. D. L. Parker was run down by an auto and painfully, if not dangerously, hurt. He, too, is still suffering from his injuries and has lost much time on account of the accident.

Early this fall Colporteur S. E. Foster, who is at work in Idaho, and who drives a Ford car, was met one dark night by a car whose lights were very bright and blinding. Not knowing the road, he turned out too far and without warning his car rolled over into an irrigation canal.

A Miraculous Escape

The canal was from five to six feet deep and nearly full of water. When the car came to a rest, it was upside down and Mr. Foster, caught beneath the steering wheel, completely under water with the car resting on top of him. Evidently the motorist who had caused this accident knew nothing about it, for he kept on going; and how Brother Foster, injured as he was, had strength sufficient to lift the

car, so that he could get clear of the wreck and come to the surface before drowning, is quite beyond understanding.

X-ray examinations revealed that the point on one of the vertebra of his neck had been broken and was almost protruding through the skin. Three ribs were fractured, his collar bone dislocated, and a five-inch fracture found in his shoulder blade.

So eager is this man to be at his beloved colportage work, that it has been with great difficulty that his doctor, with our help, has been able to keep him quiet long enough to permit his injuries to heal sufficiently to make it safe for him to be about once more. We are glad to report that his recovery seems assured.

Shortly before this accident he wrote: "I came to a Mormon home, a girl opened the door, and I told her that I had Bibles for sale. She said she was glad, for she wanted one very much. I heard her ask her mother to buy one, but the mother said she did not have a penny to her name. The girl then asked me to wait while she went out to the field to ask her father for money; but when she returned, tears came to her eyes as she told me her father had spent his last dime for tobacco.

A Precious Gift

"I then asked her why she was so anxious to have a Bible. She looked at me with surprise and said, 'Why, to read, of course.' Well, I selected a nice clothbound one and asked if she would promise to read it if I gave it to her. She assured me that she would, and when I gave it to her she kissed the Book, pressed it to her heart and said it was the finest present she had ever had in her life. I have worked among many settlements composed largely of this class of people. While I have sold many Scriptures, I have, because of poverty, been obliged to make many grants. During the last few months I have given away 20 Bibles, 75 Testaments, and over 400 portions.

"I have met young people several months after having given them a Gospel and have found many who had read their books through from two to six times. In several instances I asked them questions, which they could answer readily, proving that they had remembered much of what they had read."

A Mormon Bishop's Appreciation

The following letter from a Mormon bishop sent to the Denver office is but one of many similar reports we have received from many classes of people since Universal Bible Sunday. "Yesterday in our church services we presented to our people a general summary of your work, and had on display samples of many editions of the Bible as published by your Society. Much interest was manifested in the Book, and especially in the penny edition of the various books of the Bible. People like them very much, as they can be placed in their pockets and read very easily at odd times. They are also valuable for the children."

The Utah Gospel Mission

The Utah Gospel Mission has completed another successful year's work. For many years the Western Agency has cooperated with this organization. The individual reports of their workers are sent to headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio, and appear in the annual report of the mission as prepared by the secretary, the Rev. J. D. Nutting. Parts of this report are so intimately connected with our work, that I quote selected portions.

"In June, 1926, we shall have been twenty-five years in the actual field work of the mission, and will have covered the ground about five and one-third times. It would take twelve true missionaries to cover it every three years with its vastly increased population. Surely three years between gospel messages is long enough! Shall we not be enabled to do much more in future?"

Fifty Below Zero and Lesser Extravagances

"We began the work with all three wagons in the southeast corner of Idaho or just across the line in Wyoming—a region which we had expected to have finished some weeks earlier. And while the geography was somewhat unexpected, the weather was still more so; giving us the unheard-of temperature of 50 degrees or more below zero for one or two nights, and lesser extravagance in others; with heavy snow making travel with autos impossible save by loading them on bobsleds at great expense, and leaving some places unvisited to reach safety. The expense mounted as the thermometer lowered. One outfit had about 9,000 feet mountain altitude and 51 degrees below zero one night. After fifty miles of such travel the autos were able to get through to Pocatello with only an easy upset into a snow-bank, and a break in the transmission; but the men were pretty well worn on their arrival.

The Colporteur Work

"In this work during 1925 we made 10,705 calls in regular house-to-house visitation in 107 places—counting usually only those large enough to have a Mormon ward, or which have a post-office name. Of the 107 places about 89 were destitute of local Christian work, including some of 1,000 people or more. One whole valley of twenty by perhaps ten miles, with about 5,000 people, had no Christian work at all; while places of as many as 2,500 and 3,500 had only one small Christian church, with small membership and attendance. The pastors in some places were unusually active, earnest men, though seldom seeming to take any open stand regarding Mormonism, unless in private talks—which is the wiser way, usually, though more might perhaps be done. These facts only emphasized the need of our work, which can and does take the direct issue between the Mormon and Biblical systems to all the people.

"This is done at the same visit to a town as the colporteur work; and each kind of effort helps the other. Calling at homes gives op-

portunity to invite people to the meetings in the evening, and gives the best chance to explain our main work, which is the house-to-house calling and conversations, with Bibles, etc., for sale.

"The bad crops, reflected in bank failures and reduced populations during much of last year, lessened our sales noticeably, the regions about being mainly dry wheat farms, one of which included 6,000 acres. Our sales aggregated only about half in number and a little over half in amount as compared with last year. The total of Bibles and portions was 1,044, for \$911.13."

One of our colporteurs writes, "I find Bibles in nearly every American home I visit; but on questioning, I discover that few of them are read. I have been shown a dozen Bibles this summer that are from seventy-five to one hundred years old and show no signs of usage. I have tried to get parents to buy a Bible or a Testament for each member of the family; for I have observed that many young people will read them if they are personally owned.

Dinner or Testament—Which?

"While camping near a school in one of the mountain towns, I made friends with the boys and girls. They were interested in the little Testaments and soon began to buy. Several brought their weekly allowance and bought Scriptures instead of going to the picture show. In one home where I called, the mother told me that her boy had used his lunch money to buy a Testament, thus going without his meal in order to own a book.

"When his mother asked this boy if he did not regret his choice, he said, 'No; for I had to stay hungry only a few hours, while I can keep my Testament always.' The result was that the mother felt ashamed to be without a Bible in her home and bought one.

"I found that nearly every Spanish-speaking family was interested in the Bible. They are saying, 'If in Mexico the people can get along without priests, why can't we?' There seems to be a real hunger for religious help among them. I have sold more Spanish Scriptures this year than ever before. Many of these people have been told that Protestant Bibles do not mention 'the Virgin Mary'; but when I show them the many passages where the story about Mary is told, they gladly buy the Book. The spiritual hunger I find, and the fear of reading our Bible, reminds me of a person who is starving for food and suddenly finds himself in the presence of a bountiful meal, but dares not eat for fear the food has been poisoned."

Said a mother to a colporteur who had given her a Bible, "God only knows what this means to me. I have not had a Bible since I was a little girl, and oh, how I have longed for one these years. My husband died, and I have had to make a living for myself and my three children; and I have needed a Bible, but couldn't afford to buy one."

The Rev. Mr. Holland, our representative in Kansas City, was told that there was a negro preacher in jail who wanted a Bible. Calling at the jail and being permitted to talk to the man, he soon learned his story. Said the negro, "No, sir, I ain't got no money, but I've got to have a Bible. I used to be a preacher. I prospered and had everything I needed, but I forgot the Lord. I quit preaching and soon drifted into sin; and now after years of backsliding, I'm in jail. My Bible got lost years ago, but I didn't care. Now I need it for myself, and I need it to help other men." Needless to say the man was given a Bible, and since then, we have been told, this negro preacher has made good use of his gift, reading to other prisoners the precious word of Him whose heart yearns for men just such as these.

Mother's Love Opens Door

"While working in one of the rather questionable parts of town, a woman answered my knock at the door. Her shallow, commercial welcome turned to a frigid belligerence when she saw a Bible in my hand. Before I could complete my first sentence of introduction, she angrily ordered me to 'get out.' Seeing a child's coat hanging in the hall gave me an inspiration, and I said, 'All right, lady, but I have something to tell you that will mean much to your little daughter.'

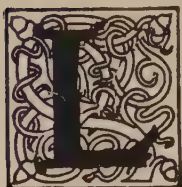
"The woman's face changed instantly, and a look of great concern appeared. She asked me to come in and demanded to know what I meant by that remark. I told her in simple frankness that, unless she wanted her little girl to follow in her mother's footsteps, she would need to transform her own life; and without the help of God this would be impossible. While saying this I opened my Bible and began to read some appropriate passages. The woman was greatly agitated and confessed that, while she didn't 'care a whoop for her own soul,' she wouldn't 'for all the world' have her little girl live the kind of life she was living. She bought a Bible for her daughter and said she would read it herself; for she knew she could not save her girl, unless she herself lived differently."

In Conclusion

With gratitude to God for all his manifold blessings, and with deep appreciation of the loyal cooperation of the men and women who have made it possible for the Western Agency to report the marvelous increase in its distribution, we conclude our story for 1926 with the earnest prayer that the future may hold in store even greater success than has been achieved in the past.

PACIFIC AGENCY

The Pacific Agency was established in 1907. The field covered includes the states of California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington; to which the Hawaiian Islands were added in 1920, and Alaska in 1926. The circulation for the year 1926 was 446,615 volumes, an increase of 89,634 volumes over that of 1925. This makes a total distribution since 1907 of 2,698,752 volumes. One hundred and fifty-seven persons besides the Secretary were employed in this work in 1926, of whom 9 were colporteurs and 148 correspondents; 151 voluntary workers generously participating in, and furthering it. The Rev. T. Davis Acheson, 250 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, Calif., is acting Agency Secretary.



LOOKING at some of the early pages of this report, one might think it to be from a Foreign rather than a Home Agency. This simply illustrates what a cosmopolitan people we are in these United States, and nowhere more so than on the Pacific coast. That Agency alone reports the use of Scriptures last year in 73 languages and in five embossed systems for the blind. Another feature somewhat distinctive of this report is the record of Scripture distribution to classes or groups of the community. The tales of Scriptures given to sailors, to prisoners, and to patients in hospitals, are samples. A choice piece of service is that of a Bible lover who has undertaken to give the Bible to orphans throughout the state in which he lives. And there are other choice and stimulating incidents in the pages which follow. The record of this Agency for the year 1926 is also somewhat unique in that there was a marked increase of circulation in Bibles and in Testaments as well as in portions; over 20 per cent in Bibles, 50 per cent in Testaments and again 20 per cent in portions. The devoted and long-time successful Secretary of this Agency, the Rev. A. Wesley Mell, prepared this report, but at present is on a six months' leave of absence to recuperate his health. The Rev. T. Davis Acheson is Acting Secretary.

Considering the general interest of the public in securing Scrip-

tures and the cooperation of Bible lovers, this has been a record year for the Pacific Agency.

The Pacific Agency has not only sold and distributed more Scriptures than ever before, but it has sent the Word to more Bibleless communities, has reached more Bibleless individuals, and reached more distant fields than it has in any previous year. For all this we are devoutly thankful, and desire to give measure of our appreciation to the devoted colporteurs and correspondents, pastors, missionaries and individual workers who have loved the Book and have sought to get it into the hands, minds and hearts of others. The work has largely been done by a loyal and efficient staff of workers in the office and in the field. Pastors, evangelists, home missionaries of all churches, and some of no church, have cooperated. Many of these have worked self-sacrificingly in hard and difficult fields; some have traveled in isolated and lonely places, in the mountainous and desert districts, as well as in the crowded sections of the cities, and have visited ships of many nations in the harbors. Distant outposts, the Hawaiian Islands and Alaska, have not been neglected, and many Scriptures have been purchased and sent to lands beyond the seas.

Broadcasting

We have continued the broadcasting daily of a portion of Scripture, a chapter or less, from Station KPO, Hale Brothers and *The Chronicle*, San Francisco. This is our fourth year of this service, and it has become a recognized feature of this station. When Mr. A. C. Deckelman, of our office, who had charge of the daily reading, left for Europe, the Rev. Mr. Golden, who has joined the depository staff, continued it. It has been a most acceptable service, reaching thousands in distant and isolated sections with the daily reading.

Thankful

Many letters of appreciation have been received rejoicing that so many others may have the privilege of hearing each day at the noon hour the Word of God as it goes out over the radio. One writes in, enclosing a contribution to the American Bible Society, signing himself, "A Friend of the Bible." His letter reads:—

"I have been out of reach of KPO for a few days, but am now back. The readings are a great joy. They convey a spirit of earnestness that goes right to the heart and must be a source of great good and appreciation of the Word of God. We pray for this radio proclamation and its reading and for the American Bible Society."

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bowie, of Portland, Oregon, during the past year, as in many previous years, have given unceasing aid in Bible distribution. Mr. Bowie writes: "I think this has been the best year of all in the distribution of the Gospels through Christian workers, who have bought and paid for Gospels and New Testaments for those who are not Christians. Most of these workers are laboring

men, who work hard for a living and put aside a portion of their wages each week for this work. They go out nights and Sundays to tell the gospel story and give out the Word. One man past middle life comes every Monday and gets sixty 5-cent Testaments to give away. Another, a hard working man with a family, and buying a home on the instalment plan, uses a portion of his wages to buy Gospels to give away. He just came this week and ordered five thousand, taking with him four hundred.

"Some of these men who have automobiles go to the out-of-the-way places, logging camps, etc., to hold meetings. They put Bibles and portions on the table and tell all to help themselves. These are nearly always paid for, and they come back for more copies."

Mrs. Bowie says, "While we are too old to get out in the work as we once did, we can send others and follow them with our prayers. Many prayers are offered for God's blessing on the Word, and many thank the Lord for this branch of the American Bible Society where they can get Scriptures at such a low cost. We are very thankful to be able to supply them through the American Bible Society."

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bowie are colporteurs who serve a great district in and about Portland, Oregon. They have been a boon and a blessing to various camp meetings, mission churches and street meetings, and have distributed thousands of volumes of Scripture in many languages during the past year, in addition to faithful service given for many previous years.

The Rev. and Mrs. U. G. Murphy have continued their work in Seattle and have ministered to the entire Northwest. They have distributed in all about 30,000 volumes of Scriptures in many languages. Mr. Murphy has traveled to Japan, the Hawaiian Islands and through many of the western states in the special interest of the Japanese; while Mrs. Murphy has kept open the subdepository and made effective the work of our Society in that great metropolis of the Northwest, Seattle.

The Hawaiian Campaign

The Japanese question is a vital one to America. Nowhere is this question as alive as in the Hawaiian Islands. During 1926 plans were made by the Pacific Agency for a special New Testament distributing campaign in these islands. The Rev. U. G. Murphy, of Seattle, was sent as a representative of the American Bible Society, inasmuch as he speaks fluently the Japanese language and more than half of the children in the public schools are of Japanese parentage.

Japanese Interest

Mr. Murphy sold over five thousand of the ten-cent New Testaments, and created a demand for some two thousand more. In addition to the cheap edition many leather-bound New Testaments were purchased by these Japanese-Hawaiian young people. In addition to

those copies sold by Mr. Murphy, many orders were later filled by mail — which showed a lasting and an increasing desire to read the Word.

Not only did he speak to over ten thousand young people in the University of Hawaii, the high schools, and nearly all of the public schools of the islands, but in many instances he also spoke to the parents. Many of these parents are Buddhists, and yet they bought English New Testaments for their American-born children. Six years ago Mr. Murphy conducted a similar campaign in the Hawaiian Island, and in many instances heard of good results. That his visit was far too short was evident in that he could not accept many invitations from remote districts, and many expressed the wish that he may soon return.

Hawaiian Hospital Work

Among the consecrated correspondents, Mr. A. Henley, a layman of Honolulu, has done very splendid work among a most needy class. He writes:

"Our distribution of Scriptures is chiefly to consumptives, mostly Orientals, in the Leahi Home in Honolulu. This is a large institution, with an average sick roll of about 315. Most of these patients have reached such an advanced stage of the disease before coming to the hospital, that very few leave. My wife and I have held meetings in the various wards for over seven years. We always carry a supply of Testaments and portions, and each patient who will accept is presented with a portion of Scripture. We preach and sing in from two to five wards each Wednesday night and on special occasions. I have supplied Scriptures, free, in ten different languages. I am also superintendent of a Japanese Sunday school and here I use many volumes of Scriptures. Some of the children pay for their own Bibles."

Alaska

During the year we have had to reach Alaska through correspondence with missionaries and other Christian workers there. We have supplied Scriptures to Unalakleet, Klawock, Unalaska, Shishmaref, and other centers in this territory. Mr. Pederson, working with the gospel boat A. L. Lindsley, operated by the Board of National Missions, is giving effective work in Bible distribution, selling the Bibles to those who can pay for them, and giving them in cases of destitution. He writes: "A few days ago I went into a logging camp, where I had a rough reception. A few of the men wished a service, while others did what they dared to break it up. A blacksmith bought a Bible, and when I met him a few days later he said, 'I am the fellow that bought a Bible at the logging camp, and I am reading it too.'"

Orders have come for Bibles for the Eskimos, for the Indians, for Spanish Bibles in a small language class. Alaska seems to be a fertile field, and we trust during the next year a successful campaign

may be conducted there. A government teacher among the Indians, acknowledging Scriptures sent on a grant, writes:—

“Please to accept our thanks and appreciation for Scriptures sent. May I tell you that not so much as one of the penny St. Johns will be wasted. I shall make a survey of the needs, and place the Bibles in the right places. I shall try to make each book count and may they have far-reaching effects.”

Filipinos

There is a very large number of Filipinos coming to the States. The high wages offered induce hundreds each month to migrate to California. They are locating in all coast cities from Seattle south to San Diego. The Rev. Mr. Klinefelter, for eighteen years a missionary in the Philippine Islands, and in charge of the Filipino mission in the Hawaiian Islands, has splendidly cooperated in helping to reach this group. Nearly all the Filipinos coming to the States speak English and prefer the New Testaments in English. Yet, there are many of them who like to obtain the Gospels in their native tongue.

The Japanese

The Japanese are the best supplied with Scriptures of any of the foreign-speaking group on the Pacific coast. Fully 80 to 90 per cent of the Japanese have purchased Scriptures, many of them securing either Bibles or New Testaments. The Rev. and Mrs. U. G. Murphy, of Seattle, Mr. Togo, of Oakland, the Rev. Mr. Hartani, Mr. Nozaki, the Japanese Branch of the Salvation Army, and many others have rendered most efficient and faithful service in meeting every opportunity to supply the Japanese with Scriptures.

Tour by Japanese Students

During the summer of 1926 one hundred twenty-five high-school boys of Japan made a tour of California for instruction and observation. Each one of these students was a correspondent of a leading newspaper in Japan, and their impressions were syndicated throughout their country. At a public presentation held at the Bible House in San Francisco each one of these boys was presented with a leather-bound copy of the English Bible. On this occasion the Pacific Agency had the earnest cooperation and support of the East Bay Japanese Mothers' Association, the Japanese W. C. T. U., and the Japanese Branch of the Salvation Army. We believe the placing of the Bible in the hands of these bright young students, the best Japan has to offer, is seed sown in good ground and will bear fruit a hundredfold.

The Chinese

The Chinese on the Pacific coast have shown the same increased interest in Bible reading as has been shown in China. Regular and individual workers have all testified to the eagerness with which young

Chinese have accepted New Testaments and Gospels. Our distribution has been largely in Cantonese, and Easy Wenli; but a number of volumes have been sold in Fuchau Colloquial and in Mandarin. Among the Chinese seamen in the harbors Mr. Oscar Zimmerman has distributed several thousand Gospels in the Cantonese; while Brothers Bond and Gibson have been active in the out-of-the-way places and have sold and presented hundreds of copies of Gospels to Chinese laborers throughout the state. We have had the cooperation of the Methodist and Presbyterian missions in San Francisco, as well as the assistance of many other friends, in our efforts to place Scriptures in the hands of the Chinese. Several of the stores in San Francisco's Chinatown now carry, as a part of their regular stock, Bibles and New Testaments in Chinese.

East Indians

The number of East Indians coming into the States is being reduced each year. No more laborers are allowed, but a limited number of students are still coming in. The Rev. Mr. Fieldbrave has been set aside by the Baptist Church for special missionary work among these East Indians, and he is making special efforts to supply every one with a copy of the New Testament. The influence of Ghandi and Tagore in the reading and recommending of the New Testament has broken down the partition of prejudice, and both students and laborers among the East Indians are now securing and reading the Scriptures.

Reaching India

A returned missionary, one who has given many years of service to that land, is doing a unique work in sending to English-speaking people of India a copy of the Gospel of St. Luke and of the Book of Acts, together with a letter in which she says, in part:—

"Permit me to advise you to read first the Gospel of Luke, giving you a general view of the life of Jesus Christ, his life of love and service to mankind, and his parting message to his disciples to preach the gospel to every creature. The Book of Acts tells of the wonderful change that is wrought in the lives of those who forsake sin, how the gospel was carried to Rome, and how it was spread over Europe and the world. To any one desiring further knowledge, the Gospel of St. John is an especially desirable book and will gladly be sent upon request."

A number of the recipients of these letters and Gospels have asked for a New Testament or a Bible, and one Brahmin was converted and is an active Christian worker.

Among the Spanish-speaking

The Immigration laws have largely shut the door to Europeans, but have left it wide open on the south to the Mexicans and South Americans. Through this open door these Spanish-speaking people

have been coming in by the thousands. No land of the North so beckons to them as does California. It is the Mexicans' "land of Canaan, a land flowing with milk and honey." Only two cities of Mexico have a larger Spanish-speaking population than has the city of Los Angeles.

We have had the cooperation of the missionary forces of the Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and Baptist Churches through their pastors and helpers in reaching this rapidly increasing Spanish-speaking community. The Bible House in Los Angeles and the Bible Institute have also been very active in the distribution of Scriptures.

The Rev. Mr. Hayter, at one time Secretary for the American Bible Society in Panama, who speaks Spanish fluently, has given efficient aid in bringing the Word to these people. The Rev. Messrs. Dominguez, Duran, Garcia, Martucci, Royer, Tavares, Mrs. Inostroza, Mr. Battista, and many others have cooperated with this Agency in the purchase and distribution of the Scriptures in Spanish.

To the Sailors

The Immanuel Mission to Seamen purchases Scriptures from us for ships in many ports, even overseas. From this mission Scriptures have been sent to seamen in Germany, Holland, France, Italy, Belgium, England, Austria, and Canada. Mr. Oscar Zimmerman, a missionary of this Society, writes:—

"The distribution of the Scriptures in over sixteen ports during 1926 has been blessed by God to not a few. I have learned of many being definitely saved through the reading of Scriptures. On hundreds of vessels in Canada and the United States and in European harbors the Word of God has gone into cabins by the thousands, and not one was refused.

"On a French steamer the chief officer, when learning of the purpose of my visit, thanked me for the portion of the Word and was anxious that the other man should get one also. He went from room to room with me and introduced me, so that every member of the crew might receive a Gospel.

"Next to this ship was an Italian steamer, and it was expected that many would be Catholics. After visiting a few cabins and finding ready listeners, each one thanking us for the gift of a portion of Scripture, the chief officer's room was reached. This man gladly took a Gospel and insisted that I follow him. Going to the bow of the boat, the officer called every man to come up the rope ladder. He told them why I came, and asked that each man get a portion of the Word of God. All the men took a copy, thanked me and climbed back to their task. The officer then took me to the engine room, called the men together and saw that they received a Gospel. After telling me of his appreciation of my interest in his men, he offered to send a boat with two men to take me to any boat I wished to go to.

"In San Francisco Harbor, of late, it is a joy to board either French, Dutch, or Italian ships especially, and though one has not a single copy to offer, the men will come and beg for New Testaments in their language. The other day I received a letter from a man who was saved here on a Canadian ship and has now been happy in Christ for two or three years. He sent a gift to me that more Scriptures may be sent out to men on the ships, so that others might get the blessing he received while shut in on a lonely boat. We can see the reality of their confession, when such interest is shown in the salvation of others.

A Suicide Saved

"A seaman, tired of life, took passage on a boat intending to jump off when far out. He had attempted to hang himself while on shore, but the rope broke. One of the workers, not knowing of his thoughts, gave this man a Gospel, spoke to him and pointed out the story of God's love. The man accepted Christ and was saved. He then told of his intentions, and promised he would not even think of such a thing again.

All Aboard Lost

"Of late three ships have left port never to return or arrive at another. The Gospels went into every room, nearly, on these ships, and later, when newspapers have reported these ships lost, we have rejoiced to know Gospels were given the crew before the fateful voyage. The S. S. Haleakala, often in port in San Francisco, left a South American port a few weeks ago for New Orleans. Many days out, perhaps in a storm, the ship sank with every man, despite wireless and modern aids to navigation. This ship was not heard from again, and not a trace of her was found. The Belgian S. S. Caledonier left New York after our worker had boarded the ship and given out Gospels. In mid-Atlantic the ship sank before help could be given.

"This shows how often the Gospels put on board ships are the last message the crews receive; it shows also the importance of Scripture distribution among seamen. May the Lord bless these lines and encourage others to see the need and opportunity all around us to give the gospel to a perishing world."

Various other missions to the seamen, as the Harbor Lights of San Diego, the Seamen's Institute of San Francisco and in different ports from San Pedro to Bellingham, with the Navy Y. M. C. A.'s and the floating stations of the Christian Endeavor, have all assisted in bringing the seamen the Scriptures.

A Cross-country Traveler

The Rev. Eliza Hollandsworth Rogers has traveled from Beckley, West Virginia, to the Pacific coast, and northward through San Francisco into the state of Washington. She has traveled alone in a small truck like a laundry wagon, and has preached in fourteen

states. "God has guided me all the way with his holy spirit," she writes. Her special mission has been to visit the jails and penitentiaries on her travels of over 4,500 miles. Each Agency she has visited has contributed Gospels and New Testaments for her work. We have received good word from her work, and she seems to have been a ministering angel to those who are in bonds. She writes, "I have distributed 2,142 New Testaments, 1,500 Gospels in jails and penitentiaries, and I have seen 363 prisoners converted."

Nevada

We have a few very faithful workers in Nevada. One from Carson City and Lovelock writes:—

"I have distributed about fifty Gospels of St. John in the state and Federal prisons. In Carson City I gave a Czechoslovakian New Testament, and also one in English to a prisoner sentenced to death. I gave a Spanish New Testament to a Mexican prisoner, and an English New Testament to a third prisoner, both sentenced to death. To a young lady who repeated all the books of the Bible without error I gave a New Testament. In Lovelock I have handed out over one hundred copies of the Gospel of St. John."

While Brother Ruf has made no systematic canvass of any of the towns in connection with his pastoral work, he is always alert and distributes Scriptures whenever it is possible to make the opportunity. Grants of Scriptures have been made to Indian schools in the state and to other needy cases. From a distant country school district a teacher asks for a grant of a Bible. She writes: "We are ten miles from the post office and almost walled in by a massive rock towering upward many feet. The children speak Spanish, and one school period daily is for Spanish."

Hospital Missionary

One man, Brother John Nicholich, has given his whole time of service to visiting hospitals. He reports:—

"I have been privileged to visit over sixty hospitals and a few jails in ten different counties. I also had permission to visit the Pacific Fleet and the Japanese Fleet when in San Francisco Bay; also the Japanese passenger boats, all of which we supplied with Scriptures in their own language. In this work I have distributed not less than eight thousand copies of Scripture. For the sick in hospitals reading foreign languages I secure Bibles in their own tongue. I thank God for the American Bible Society where I may secure these Bibles. I find among the Spanish-speaking, the Italians, Chinese and Japanese, people who have never read the Bible. I gave to a patient in a county hospital, a Mexican man about eighty years old, a copy of the Bible, which he read through. He told me that when he was a boy he worked in a Catholic church in Mexico. One day he found a Bible and took it behind the church to read it; but a

priest took it way from him and said it was not a book for him to read. From that time his heart was hungry for knowledge of that book; and yet he never possessed a Bible until I gave him one when he was eighty years old. He said, 'Brother John, I missed much in my life; but now, thank God, I have been given a chance to know the truth and learn that the Son of God died for me, and that he came to seek and save that which was lost.'

"I would like to encourage the givers and helpers of the Bible Society by telling them their reward is sure and their work is not in vain. God will reward them on the last day for their unselfish labors in publishing his Word in so many languages, and making it possible to reach the hearts of so many people in so good a way.

Personal Testimony

"May I add my own testimony? Some ten years ago I was in great need. Human hand was not able to aid me. I had never read the Bible, yet I knew that Jesus died for me. I went home and prayed the Lord to save and help me. From ten o'clock until two in the morning I beseeched God to be merciful to me a sinner, and to forgive me because Jesus died for me. Suddenly light came, and I was changed. No human words can express my happiness, peace, and joy. The next day it seemed the world was new. I am thankful to Him for having called me into his service as a ray of comfort to sick people. What He has done for me, He can do for any man or woman."

Near San Francisco — In the Bay Region

Miss Katherine Shepherd and her mother have been fulfilling Luke 14:21-23, going out into the streets and lanes of the cities and into the highways and byways. They write:

"We have found it necessary to carry the New Testament, as we find many who have never read it. These are mostly among the Roman Catholics, and I always carry a Catholic New Testament and often point by comparison that their Bible differs but little from the Protestant Bible. My mother was converted from Catholicism twenty-six years ago, after reading a Bible which was given her by a Christian friend. Since then she has been giving Bibles and Scriptures away. The president of the Sheriff's Association of California is a lifetime friend of my mother's, and he has given us a letter of introduction which admits us into every county jail in the state. As reading matter is scarce in the jails, and time plentiful, many will read God's Word, if it is only given to them. 'So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God' (Romans 10:17). We visit county hospitals and place New Testaments and Gospels in different languages. During this year we have visited forty-nine towns, have done personal work and visited in homes. We have given away about 350 New Testaments and some Bibles; also Gospels in different languages. We hope next year we may be able to accomplish more for Jesus."

Winning Men with the Word

Another personal worker, Mr. M. E. Thomas, of Long Beach, Calif., has distributed Scriptures in Long Beach, San Pedro, Los Angeles, at the immigration station, in the jails and on the streets. He has distributed some 2,500 Gospels of St. John and over 200 New Testaments. All of his work in winning men to Christ has been among strangers. He writes:—

"I was entirely ignorant of what to do to win men to Christ; but one was kind enough to call at my home and advise me to go to my Saviour in prayer for baptism of the Holy Spirit for service. This I did, and two days later led the first soul to Christ. This was in 1925, and to date 895 souls have followed. I give Him all the praise and glory. I have spoken to hundreds and hundreds, but have never had one reply unkindly. I write that my experience may stimulate others to distribute the Word. My daily prayer is that all Christians will go to Him in prayer for power to do personal work in the distribution of the Word."

In the San Joaquin Valley

For a number of years Mr. Bernard Privat has worked in and about Stockton, working especially among the little folks, "poor in the world, but rich in faith and pure in heart, small boys and girls with bright eyes, sometimes sad, but yet happy, who love to read about Jesus in the Word. Should you ask them how much they love God and their Saviour, they would look into your eyes with a pure, and beautiful smile and say, 'I love Him very much.'"

A faithful correspondent and Scripture distributor for many years is Mrs. Howerton, of El Monte, Calif. She has during the past year visited several towns and villages and called on many, many families. She writes:—"The Bible is the greatest book of the universe. When we pray, we talk to God. When we read the Bible, God talks to us; and yet it is a blank check unless used. I love to distribute the Bible, knowing that every soul needs food."

A Veteran

The Rev. J. H. Johnson, for many years a regular colporteur of the American Bible Society, traveling to the most needy and isolated section of the Agency, has for the past several months been doing house-to-house visitation in the fast-growing section of the Santa Clara Valley. He has visited some two hundred families and a number of churches. He has sold a number of Bibles and New Testaments and, in a few instances of destitute circumstances, he has donated Bibles.

Miss Grace Nichols, of San Francisco, who for many years has been an untiring distributor of Scriptures, writes: "Last summer as we motored down the highway and passed the various Chinese flower gardens the words, 'Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by,' kept

ringing in my ears. I saw the Chinese men and women working among the beds of chrysanthemums and asters. It all looked like a bit of China, seeing the high straw hats here and there among the bushes. I had been by so many times, blind, indifferent to these precious Chinese souls for whom our Lord and Saviour died on Calvary's cross!

"Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by?"

"After hearing these words repeatedly in passing and repassing these groups, like Samuel of old, I was fully awakened during the summer and I said, 'What will you have me to do?' Guided by Him, accompanied by the young Chinese Christian who lives with us, we stopped at the different flower gardens and distributed Gospels and tracts in Chinese. As the Chinese talk went on and on, the women to whom he was talking now and then nipping off the small buds, then lifting up their faces to reply in Chinese, I said, 'What does she say, Stephen?' 'Has she ever heard of Jesus Christ?' He shook his head and said, 'No, she has never heard of him.'

"God is greatly blessing our Saturday afternoon visits among the Chinese flower gardens, as the following letter will show you. It was from a Chinese girl who attends public school in San Carlos with many other Chinese children belonging to this colony. God has put it in our hearts to have a Sunday school down there, and I pray God will raise up a group who will be willing to motor down Sunday afternoons, both from the Chinese churches and those who speak English."

The Chinese girl wrote to Miss Nichols:—

"I received the two books of New Testaments. Two of my chums were with me when I opened the package, and they ask me for it. So I gave one to one of them, and I keep one for myself. The other ask me for the other and I told her that I want it myself, and then she asked me to send for one. Please let me have another book of New Testament, as I want to give it to my chum. — M.K.L."

Had Never Seen a Gospel

"No, I have never seen this before," was the amazing statement of a grown-up Italian, a musician, who sat beside me in one of our city street cars not long ago. I had just given him the Gospel of St. John in Italian. My amazement never ceases as I meet person after person from those lands where they are not allowed to read God's precious Word who tell me they have never seen a Gospel before. That is what Grania, my new Russian friend, told me, as we sat together in a restaurant this spring, after I had presented her with a Gospel of John in Russian. I rejoice that since that day she has been a faithful distributor of Bibles and Gospels in Russian, to groups of refugees in camp in Marseilles, even to a Russian princess in Paris, through Grania's reaching out to many Russians. All this came about by speaking to a lonely discouraged soul to whom our Lord in his great

compassion sent me so definitely to comfort with the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

Mrs. E. C. Faulkner, of Sacramento, Calif., reports distribution of Bibles and portions in the county jails and the state prison. She writes: "God has richly blessed the work the past year. Seven Bibles were requested for one corridor in our county jail. The boys are committing many verses of Scripture to memory. They come forward in a group and rehearse together, and then later I drill them one at a time, until each one has memorized the verse. A Catholic Filipino, who was converted about three and a half years ago, is now studying at the university preparing for the mission field. Another converted in San Quentin when I visited there about a year ago has read the Bible through twice, and is now reading it the third time. Another is reading the Bible through the second time this year. And I could tell of many others, if space would permit."

Mrs. Faulkner has during the past year visited and revisited Folsom and San Quentin prisons, Santa Cruz, Oakland, Sacramento County and City jails, and in addition has personally called on families, about two hundred in all, and donated or sold Bibles to all families without. She closes her brief report by saying, "Brother Mell, I do want to thank you, as the representative of the American Bible Society, for the Bibles and portions secured from you. I distribute them prayerfully and carefully."

Doorstep Bible Schools

Riley O. Johnson has been active in promoting weekly classes of outdoor Bible schools in forty different neighborhoods, distributing a thousand Old and New Testament portions, one hundred New Testaments and twenty Bibles. The four Gospels were given out to each boy or girl, and as they were read a New Testament was given, and only as the New Testaments were read were the Bibles given. In addition, Mr. Johnson sold some forty-five Bibles. He reports: "The children generally are deeply interested in reading the Bible themselves. Since June 15th I have visited each week about fifty-five patients in hospitals and have distributed Scriptures to those who desired."

Sam Green, our Jewish colporteur, has given us service this year in San Francisco and Los Angeles and about seventeen other towns in the state of California. He is splendidly equipped for work among the Jewish people and others of Central Europe, as he speaks, so as to sell the Scriptures, in some nine different languages. He has worked from house to house in the large Russian districts of Los Angeles, and he has also done considerable work in the parks, meeting his own countrymen and others of Central Europe. Mr. Green reports he has visited about 1,280 families, has traveled about 5,000 miles, and has distributed 1,344 volumes of Scriptures in ten different languages.

One correspondent writes: "The people are hungry for the truth, but they are confused and do not know what to believe on account of too many doctrines. I have worked in Lodi, Stockton, Manteca, Lathrop, Escalon, Tracy, Ripon, Sacramento, Modesto, Oakland, San Francisco, and other towns between."

In the states of California, Washington, Oregon and Idaho, as well as some other western states, Mr. C. W. Hiltz, who terms himself "Daddy Hiltz, seventy-five years young," has lost no opportunities to distribute the Word of God. A Bible lover furnishes Mr. Hiltz with as many volumes as he may distribute in any language required. The loving service given by this seventy-five-year-old servant of God can best be described in his own words:

"Daddy is happy—why? First I received 100 Gospels of St. John a week ago. This week 500 in English, and others in different languages. Many thanks for Dr. Jensen's kindness. I was a privileged character in the railroad yards where 1,000 men are employed, who accepted Gospels with thanks and appreciation of my remembrance. The Chinese and Japanese thanked me, the colored folks were remembered, the jails were visited, and so many say 'You are needed.' The Mormon Elders thank Daddy and say, 'Go on.' The fountains of my heart are overflowing because of the blessed privilege of being a coworker in so worthy an enterprise as extending the borders of God's kingdom among men."

Highways and Byways

Captain G. L. Hall, a colporteur-evangelist of McMinnville, Oregon, has sold and distributed over 1,000 volumes of Scriptures in connection with his home missionary work. He reports traveling about twenty-five miles each day, conducting five meetings each week in which his audiences average nearly one-half nonprofessing Christians. He reports his work as "a helper in pastorless fields, preaching along highways and byways, visiting sawmills and lumber camps and taking the gospel to out-of-the-way places."

Mr. S. E. Roth, of Woodburn, Oregon, has been active in the distribution of Scriptures in the needy districts of Oregon. Friends of Brother Roth's work have contributed over 1,000 New Testaments and some Bibles, all of which have been distributed. In addition he has purchased from this Agency several hundred volumes of Scriptures, which have been placed in the hands of those eager to read. The Gospel Tract Mission, with which Brother Roth is connected, has sent Scriptures to all parts of the world, to Europe, Asia, Africa, and to Central and South Americas. These are not sent indiscriminately, but to special workers for careful distribution. Each parcel mailed out bears on the cover a printed sticker giving a Scripture verse, often John 3:16. While they have reached far-distant parts with gospel messages, the isolated districts nearby have not been neglected, and Brother Roth and his workers have visited hospitals,

poor farms, rural Sunday schools, and has stopped at public schools during intermissions, always with a supply of Gospels and religious literature.

Orphans

We should not fail to mention the work of Mr. W. D. Allen, a farmer and stock raiser of Junction City, Oregon. For over thirty years he has made it a point to supply with a copy of the Bible all orphan children in central Oregon of whom he learned. I can never forget the delightful evening I spent in this brother's home when he told me with great joy of the wonderful and blessed work it has been to carry into the foothills and mountainous districts the Word of Life. If only men with means could know the joy of personal participation in Bible distribution, our Society would surely not lack for workers.

A Need

As the work of the year has unfolded before us, we have been impressed, even with the increased and wide distribution of the Word, there is a very great need of more house-to-house visitation. Jails, hospitals, orphanages, penitentiaries and other public institutions have not been neglected, but hundreds and hundreds of Bibleless homes have been passed by, because a reduced colportage staff was necessary through lack of funds. This necessitated a reorganization of our distributing forces and securing a still larger organization of the already organized forces of Christian workers to put over the program of reaching every home with the Word of God. We hope to still further awaken pastors and churches to the need of supplying their own communities with Scriptures in whatever language they may read. House-to-house visitation can best be done by a staff of local workers, cooperating with the American Bible Society, in putting the Word of Life into the hands of all the people. This would require increased appropriation and involve additional expense.

Bibleless Homes

From our reports and observation we judge there are fully two hundred thousand homes in the Pacific Agency that are without any Bibles whatever, whether Catholic, Jews, or Protestant. This need calls for united and continuous effort on the part of the Bible lovers, and we pray that the American Bible Society may be so supplied with funds that we may meet this urgent need.

NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS



THE most direct work for the North American Indians done in the past year was that rendered by grants of Scriptures for distribution in schools for Indian children, through a Committee of the Home Missions Council and Council of Women for Home Missions. Care is taken by those in charge that the books are really desired and deserved. They are, in some measure, made a reward for good work done in the schools. The more indirect work of supplying Scriptures, for Indians and missions working among the Indians, has led to the distribution of these volumes in Arapahoe, Cherokee, Choctaw, Dakota, Muskogee, Navaho, Ojibwa, Seneca, and Tukuludh.

FOREIGN AGENCIES



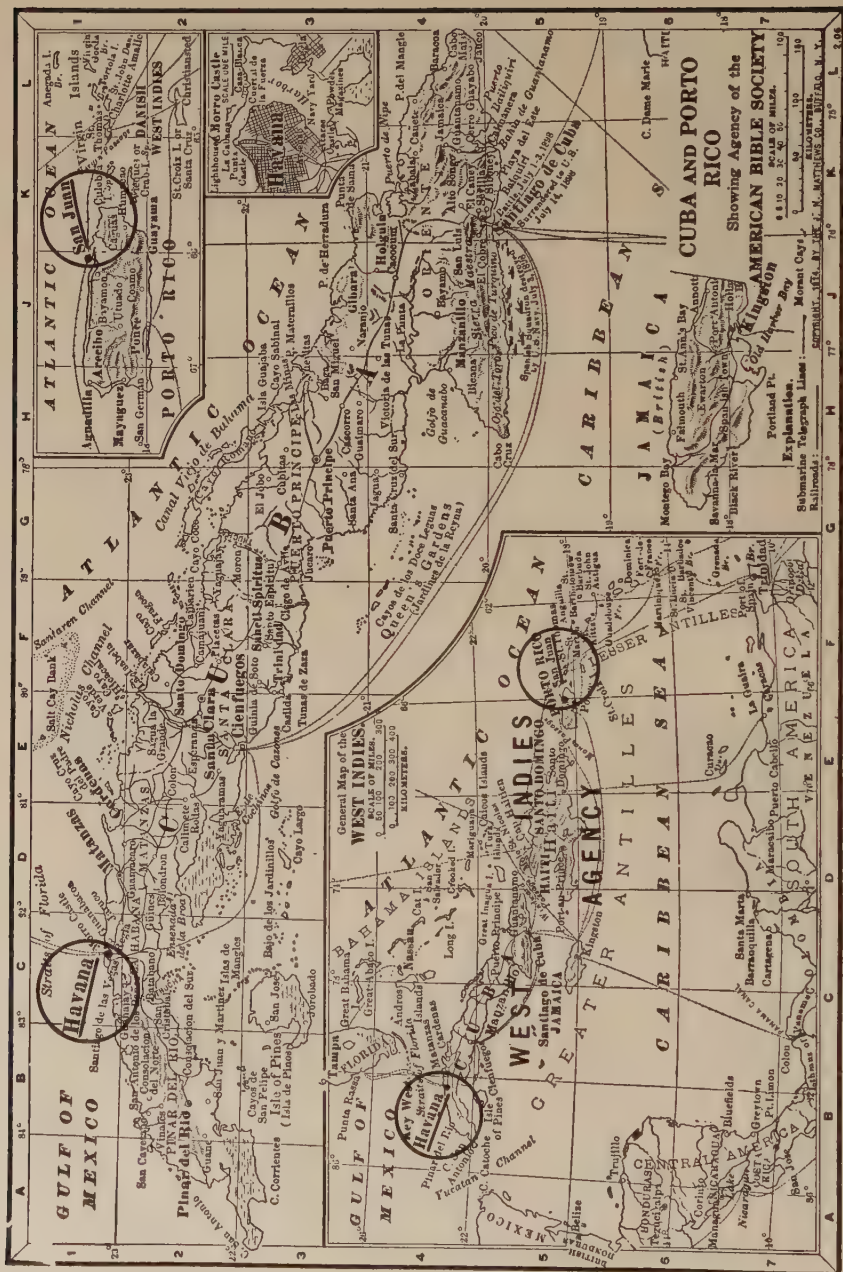
THE reports of the Foreign Agencies are presented in the order of their relation and geographical position to the United States. The date of organization together with the names of the Agency Secretaries and dates of appointment at the time this report goes to press are printed herewith for record and reference:

Agency	Established	Agency Secretary	Appointed
West Indies	1882,	José Marcial-Dorado, Ph.D., Havana, Cuba	1918
Mexico	1878,	H. T. Marroquin, Mexico City, in charge	1927
Caribbean	1892,	Rev. Raymond R. Gregory, Cristobal, C.Z.	1920
Upper Andes	1919,	Rev. R. H. Milligan, D.D., Apartado 407, Lima, Peru	1927
La Plata	1864,	Rev. Paul Penzotti, Buenos Aires	1921
Brazil	1876,	Rev. Hugh C. Tucker, D.D., Rio de Janeiro	1887
Levant	1836,	Rev. J. Oscar Boyd, D.D., Constantinople, Turkey*	1926
Arabic-Levant	1921,	William S. Strong, Cairo, Egypt†	1927
Philippines	1899,	Rev. G. Bruce Cameron, Manila	1921
Siam	1890,	Rev. Robert Irwin, Bangkok	1912
China	1876,	Rev. G. Carleton Lacy, Shanghai	1921
Japan	1876,	Rev. Karl E. Aurell, Tokyo‡	1927

* Appointed to Arabic-Levant Agency in 1921.

† Appointed Acting Agency Secretary in 1926.

‡ Appointed Acting Agency Secretary in 1918.



CUBA AND PORTO RICO

Showing Agency of the AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Showing Agency of the AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

WEST INDIES AGENCY

The Agency for the West Indies, established in 1882, embraces Cuba, Porto Rico, Haiti, Santo Domingo, the Virgin Islands, and the French Islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 74,512 volumes. The total circulation in the West Indies since this Agency was established has been 1,117,095 volumes. In the distribution 51 colporteurs, 143 correspondents, and 22 volunteers participated during 1926. The territory of this Agency covers an area of 78,000 square miles, and comprises a population of 8,000,000 inhabitants. Of this population, 4,200,000 are white, and 3,800,000 are colored. José Marcial-Dorado, Ph.D., is the Agency Secretary, with headquarters at 126 San Miguel Street, Havana, Cuba.



STEADY and gratifying progress, not only in circulation of, but also in desire for, the Scriptures is the happy note with which this report opens. It is interesting to observe the increase in the number of languages used in the area of this Agency as judged by the call for Scriptures in those languages. A series of testimonials on quite a variety of phases of the Society's work adds to the effect of the report, and the ten conclusions with which it closes give food for thought as well as ground for encouragement.

To know that progress continues and to see signs of it with your own eyes is the greatest stimulus to work of any kind. God is helping the West Indies to advance in their own way. Both morally and spiritually the West Indies are progressing more and more year after year along the path of their intellectual and moral life. This pronounced and visible progress of the West Indies is all the more encouraging because it presents an aspect of gradual development, which, though perhaps slow, becomes surer and more certain as time goes on. It is not a rapid progress by fits and starts, like many others which at the beginning offer such glorious opportunities and later fall away and perhaps disappear. The intellectual and moral advancement of the West Indies is still more pleasing, because instead of being harnessed to speed it is the result of deep meditation allied with self-satisfaction. Things which are done quickly and without much forethought usually are incomplete and liable to suffer many setbacks. This is the distinctive character of man-made works. Spiritual work belongs to God and is characterized by its reflexive and permanent grandeur. With the aid of reflexion, calmness, happiness and success, the Bible and missionary

work in the West Indies are growing every year, in spite of the fact it is one of the smallest missionary fields in the world, that it has the least material resources, and that it is one of the missionary fields least aided by the Christian boards of the United States.

For the last eight and one-half years we have been struggling with the spiritual and intellectual problems in the West Indies, taking an active part by distributing Bibles. There has been a slow awakening of the people to the Light; they have been advancing spiritually, although at the same time they were still more or less walking in the dark until the start of the missionary work which came with clearer and fixed plans of action. These were the years when the Bible work was watched, studied and closely urged as to how it could best benefit the lives of these people, taking into consideration their special psychological conditions, to which more attention was paid than to the suggestions of those who had not penetrated into the very soul of the people.

During 1923, 1924, 1925, and 1926, each year more books were sold than in the previous year; the requests from missionaries increased every year, and the number of workers grew yearly, many doing their work gratuitously; offers and invitations for conferences and Bible campaigns came in more abundantly; the general interest of the intellectual classes showed greater activity, and the number of people who knew nothing of Christian churches, but wanted to know something of the Bible, began to take large proportions. In educational clubs, workingmen's societies and unions, Masonic lodges, the general interest became keen to hear about the Bible and the great spiritual help it offered to all. These are the years when one may say the conscience of the West Indies was awakening; when the people began to take some interest in spiritual affairs. The Scriptures to-day are in demand, increasingly in the West Indies, as the following statistics do well to prove.

Distribution

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
1923	4,889	3,438	22,416	30,743
1924	6,747	3,067	57,589	67,403
1925	6,771	3,867	59,606	70,244
1926	7,640	2,581	64,291	74,512

A point worthy of note is in the growing preference for complete Bibles over Testaments only, it now being easier to sell a whole Bible than a Testament. The general trend in the West Indies is to buy less and less Testaments every year, while sales of Bibles are on the increase every year. Another point to be considered is the different numbers of languages requested, as the following figures show:

- 1923 The Bible distributed in 8 languages: Spanish, French, English, Chinese, Arabic, Greek, Latin, German.
- 1924 The Bible distributed in 10 languages: The same as in 1923 and Korean and Japanese.
- 1925 The Bible distributed in 12 languages: The same as in 1924 and Italian and Russian.
- 1926 The Bible distributed in 13 languages: The same as in 1925 and Dutch.

Bible Campaigns in the Cities

Colporteur V. Lopez, of Havana, Cuba, dedicated over two months working among the chauffeurs stationed at various street corners. On an average seven chauffeurs were seen and spoken to daily and provided with Bibles, which many of them bought with enthusiasm. Another two months were devoted to work among grocer's shop assistants and cafés in supplying Bibles to the workers or even to the owners. Out of 317 bars visited, 240 Bibles were distributed among the owners, employees and assistants; that is to say on an average six bars daily were provided with Bibles. A further two months were spent in the dry goods stores, where 386 Bibles were distributed—or an average of eight Bibles a day. The following are observations made during these visits: The greater part of the chauffeurs know how to read and write, and are very interested to hear about religion. The owners, employees, and assistants in the bars and drinking saloons show less interest to read or hear about religion of any kind. The counter assistants in the dry goods stores are the most keen on hearing and reading about the work of Christ.

Bible Campaigns in the Country

Colporteurs Junco, Hubbard, Alfonso, Reyes, Ramirez, Buller, Conde, and Fataccy have visited various parts of Cuba, Porto Rico, Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, and Martinique, where 4,117 Bibles and 48,215 portions have been distributed. The reports on the work done in the country places in all these territories tend to prove that, in almost all the cases in the country, there is a very great opportunity, for the people are only too glad to greet the colporteurs and to hear what they have to say about Christ, and to read the Bible. In some places the colporteurs have met with opposition in the form of that religion preached by practicers of witchcraft, which misleads the simple and ignorant folk. In many parts where the people had no money to pay for Bibles, they gave food and lodging in exchange or even did other services, so as to be able to get the book. In some cases they even asked the colporteurs to read the Book to them. In other parts, praying seemed to have more effect on them than the reading. Almost all the colporteurs report that the people speak very badly of the Catholic priests and complained that they did not tell them about Christ, nor did they seem to have any interest in him. These people away out in the country considered themselves abandoned by the Catholic priests. In some parts, as in Porto Rico, the evangelic mission work comes into close contact with the campaign work, because all the places are near to one or other of the evangelistic churches of the ten different denominations that are working in this small island, and they are continually getting visits from evangelic workers.

Biblical Campaign in Churches, Clubs, and Educational Centers

During the year, 121 religious services have been celebrated in

which the good influence of the Bible in the spiritual and material progress of the people was spoken about and explained; 9 scholastic societies, 7 clubs, 12 schools, 11 Masonic lodges and 14 labor organizations were visited, and 221 Bibles taken in all. Further, 9 libraries belonging to private societies took some Bibles, as also did 5 municipal libraries.

Testimonies from Lay People

From a letter written by a prominent Cuban educator: "I believe that a spiritualist movement is starting in the whole America, because their conscience seems to be restless. The reading and knowledge of the Holy Scriptures may be very appropriate means of guiding this movement."

From a letter of a Porto Rican lawyer: "I am firmly convinced that the work which you are doing of distributing the Bible constitutes the greatest help to the culture and morale. I am enclosing a list of people who are interested in the distribution of Bibles; as for myself, I shall be only too glad to help."

From a letter of a farmer in Santo Domingo: "Yes, sir, I have the Bible and know it. I would like to take this opportunity of letting you know of the great good the distribution of Bibles is doing in this country. In some villages certain ignorant people believe that the Bible propaganda is nothing more than the commercial penetration of the North Americans, and I was very pleased indeed to receive your pamphlets about the Bible, which I distributed with success, because I wanted to show them that to propagate the Bible is to teach true Christianity."

In a letter from a bank employee, Haiti: "No reading can raise the spirit of a people more than that of this great book, called the Bible. I have heard about it from various people, and I believe that some Christian ministers are distributing it throughout the island. Many such books are needed to enable the people to learn and prosper."

In a letter from a sailor in Guadeloupe: "The Bible always goes wherever I go, either in my pocket or under my pillow. It cost me ten francs; but it has given me 'thousands of francs' worth of peace and consolation."

In a letter from a lady in Philipsburg, Virgin Islands: "Some time ago you sent us a very nice box of Bibles. It would do your heart good to know how eagerly and gladly your Bibles were received. Much good is being done, the people and their children to whom we have given them seem more subdued; the Bibles are read more, and in the reading of the Scriptures from the pulpit there seems to be greater interest. Many come to church that did not come before; and even among the Roman Catholics a number have taken Bibles and seem less afraid of the priest knowing they have them. Two Roman Catholics have been rebaptized lately, and many come to our services, receive our tracts, and are anxious and concerned when my

husband and I speak to them. We have been to some places where my husband just had to speak; and the people reminded of God's commands, and order was enforced. I am writing to ask you kindly to send us some more Bibles—English, French, and Dutch."

Testimonies from Christian Workers

In a report from Colporteur Junco Perez: "I am very happy, not only because I am able to sell many Bibles, but more so because these Bibles are saving souls. A gentleman once came to me when I was in a train, and said: 'If you have here a copy of that wonderful book about which I hear so many people talking, give me one.' I gave him a copy. A few days afterwards I met him again, and he spoke enthusiastically about the Bible. Another case: a poor woman, who had been living an evil life, took a Bible from me, and the reading of it has made a complete change in her heart and conduct. Once when I was speaking in the market place of the village, I saw the Catholic priest urging some boys to throw stones at me. But some of those who were listening to me came and said: 'Do not be afraid; the sons of the devil do not want light, and for that reason do not want the Bible to be sold in the village. We are not sons of darkness.' All of them bought Bibles from me. Glory to God."

In a report from sub-Agent Rey Lind: "As you will see in the statistics which I sent you, we have distributed this year in Porto Rico more books than last year; also we paid our correspondents more money in commission. These correspondents are of different denominations working in the island and have continually been asking for books for their churches and the work in the country in their areas. Although our island is small and the churches are near to each other, yet more books are being distributed every year, and we need still more, because the people are getting accustomed more and more to read the Bible."

From Colporteur Fataccy: "The American Bible Society is doing a great work in our French islands. The Bibles which I have been receiving, have been wonderful seed. We would like to carry on with the sowing for the benefit of our people, and we are certain that you will send us more books next year. I am meeting with a good deal of opposition from the Catholic priests. It appears that they are afraid that the Christian truth which the Bible teaches will put an end to the power they exercise over the conscience of the people. However, we have come across several priests who have expressed themselves surprised at the good effect of the reading of the Bible on the people, but these were not interested enough to combat our propaganda."

From Colporteur Butler: "I spent some days among the people on the north coast of Santo Domingo Island, and I have come to the conclusion that the people here want the Bible and that all kinds of evangelic propaganda are well received. It is to be re-

gretted that many of the people are not able to read; but they listen very attentively to any one reading to them or speaking to them about the truths of Christ."

From Miss Page, Bible woman: "The continual demand for Bibles in Haiti is a beautiful sign to have in front of us along the road of a beautiful work. I believe that, now more than ever, the people are becoming more interested in the spiritual truths."

Biblical Literature

The West Indies Agency has distributed, during 1926, 45,000 Biblical pamphlets written and edited in our Agency. Of this amount 30,000 have been distributed gratis and 15,000 sold at two for one cent. These pamphlets have been written with the aim of showing the people the value of Bible reading, and how it can influence the life of any one. These pamphlets are written for the Spanish-speaking population only.

A Few Statistics

The total number of volumes distributed in the West Indies during 1926 (Bibles, Testaments, portions) was 74,512; that is 4,268 volumes more than last year. These books were distributed in 13 languages, in the following order according to quantity: Spanish, French, English, Chinese, German, Greek, Dutch, Italian, Japanese, Latin, Korean, Arabic, and Russian. A total number of 217 workers have given all or part of their time to the work of distributing the Bible, as follows: 1 Secretary, 6 sub-Agents, 45 colporteurs, 143 correspondents, and 22 voluntary workers. Numbers of miles traveled, 14,203; places visited, 438.

Conclusions

1. The work of this year in regard to the distribution of books and the propaganda campaigns has been greater than last year, and the greatest for the last eight years.

2. The West Indies are in better condition now for mission work and Bible instruction than they have ever been before.

3. The average number of readers of the Bible in the West Indies has increased 25 per cent during the last three years.

4. The average number of readers of the Bible among the intellectual classes has increased 63 per cent.

5. There are three classes of readers of the Bible in the West Indies, as follows: Those who ask for it and read it in faith (Protestant Christians); those who read it as something new and interesting (Catholics); those who ask for it and read it as a study or for investigation (theosophists and spiritists).

6. The number of students and workmen who read the Bible is increasing every year.

7. The number of people is decreasing who, on receiving the Bible, say: "Do not talk to me of religion."

8. Some years ago our colporteurs on offering the Bible were accustomed to hear: "Another book? You should give it to us. It should be sufficient for us to take one in order to encourage us to read it." Now they say: "With great pleasure, let us have one; it is worth whatever you like to ask for it."

9. The people in the West Indies are beginning to understand that the Bible does not carry with it any trace of commercialism, nor of politics, nor of race, nor of any ecclesiastical power other than Christ's teachings.

10. The religious future of the West Indies is going to be one of the most notable and characteristic among all the Spanish-speaking people of America.



MEXICO

The Mexico Agency was established in 1878. It covers the Republic of Mexico. The circulation for the year ending December 31, 1926, was 48,299, making the total circulation since the establishment of the Agency, 1,605,343 volumes of Scripture. There were 56 colporteurs and 325 correspondents engaged in the work, assisted by 45 volunteers. Mr. H. T. Marroquin, Apartado 1373, Mexico City, Mexico, is in charge.



BEFORE us is the final report of one whose service to Mexico had made him a welcome fellow-worker before he took charge of this Agency, and whose service and spirit as Secretary have done much to commend the Holy Scriptures to all classes, both in church and state. The departure of the Rev. A. H. Mellen from Mexico is much deplored, and he has the affectionate best wishes of all in resuming his ministerial duties in the United States. His belief in, and affection for, the people of Mexico are reflected in the report which follows; and have contributed not a little to the uninterrupted and free prosecution of the work of distributing the Scriptures throughout that land. It is a tribute to him, and to the one who has been placed in charge of the work in Mexico, that the Board has felt justified in leaving its work in the hands of a Mexican for the present. The year in review has been one that has called for careful treading, and it seems to have been marked by tactful and yet unwavering activity in the circulation of the Scriptures.

We are a happy family, and we began the year with a little party just among ourselves. The home of the Secretary is not large in any thing but its welcome to friends, and especially to the other members of the Agency staff. So we had a New Year's party. Mr. and Mrs. Marroquin have five lovely children, and they all came and brought a young girl to help take care of the brood. The bookkeeper and his wife, and the little stenographer and her mother, and the man who handles the boxes and sweeps the office. Oh, it was lovely. Now, it happens that Sr. Tamez, the bookkeeper, plays the violin very well, and that Mrs. Secretary plays the piano also. So there was good music for the party. Then Sr. Marroquin's two oldest had been

going to a kindergarten in a mission school and were delighted to tell a wonderful story about Jack and Jill—all in good English. But who ever heard of a Bible party without some stories? So the Secretary sat on the floor with the rest of the children and told some stories, while all the grown folks sat up straight in their chairs and listened in a dignified and proper manner. Of course, the refreshments were served in Mexican pottery. And just before they went home, Sr. Marroquin read a Psalm, and we all knelt down and prayed for those gifts and blessings close to the hearts of all who are in the work of Bible circulation the world over.

Loyalty and love are the big things in any enterprise, and especially in sending out to the world the message of Him who loves us and gave himself for us, and who also trusts us all to do our best in his service.

We began the year with joy, and we have been keeping in a happy frame of mind for most of the twelve difficult months.

His Method and Ours

It is strange how Jesus does more than any one else to settle disputes, and yet he never takes sides. He goes right on year after year, and century after century, in the very same way in which he began his work among the simple peasants of his native land. One day as he was teaching the people, a man back in the crowd cried out to him: "Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me." And he said: "Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you?" He refused to enter into the merits of that particular case, and so the man was disappointed in the great Teacher, and was obliged to take what he could get from his brother, and may have thought Jesus rather a poor kind of a lawyer. That is the way it looked at the moment; but if his older brother had been listening to what followed, this disinherited man may have changed his mind. If the man who was snatching all the property heard the story of the rich fool, it is quite likely that he decided to change his policy; but not till after his change of heart, and it takes longer to do that than it does to hand over a legal decision and force people to do the right thing.

Jesus never changes his method. He knew that men and nations were going to quarrel and fight over property until they learned his higher law of love, and that each separate case must be settled by that same higher law.

So, here we have revolutions within some of the countries, and international disputes over property rights which seem to threaten war. And Jesus is saying: "Who made me a judge or a divider over you?" Yet he is ready to settle those very troubles, and will do so if he can get into the hearts of men. There is only one way to bring this about, and that is for the people to know him, and they cannot

know him, unless they hear or read his words,—and that means world-wide Bible circulation.

Some Troubles in Mexico during 1926

The missionaries and the colporteurs are not trying to understand about the disputes over oil rights and mining claims. The Bible Society, and all those who are trying to represent our Lord in the world, are none of them taking sides in the agrarian question, no matter how some of the poor people want land and how the rich landowners feel about it. All they are trying to do is to see that the whole people really know Jesus, and this is the only way such questions can be fully and finally settled.

But, during this year, the church and the government have come face to face in a quarrel more serious than a mere question of property rights. The clergy of the Roman communion have been told to decide whether they are going to give chief allegiance to the ruler of the church across the ocean or to the President of the Republic. But Jesus had questions equally hard presented to him, and the only way is to study his entire life and the whole range of his teaching. Not only Bible reading, but Bible study, and continued from one generation to the next, this is the only solution of these troubles and the wars of the world, and the Bible Societies are the prime movers in doing this.

Increased Desire to Know the Real Jesus

The indications are that all these troubles have only increased the desire on the part of many of the people to know more of the real Jesus, and to read and study his teaching and the stories of his life as found in the four Gospels. The circulation of the Mexico Agency has fallen a little below the previous year; but this was caused by the fact that for three months no cheap Bibles were on hand for distribution. On the first Sunday in August, when practically all of the Roman Catholic churches were without services of a priest, there was a notable increase in the attendance of some of the Protestant churches in the city of Mexico.

Locusts, Floods, Strikes, and Boycotts

During 1926 there was a terrible plague of locusts extending over wide sections of the land. This was so serious that the President ordered one cent extra postage on all letters within the republic to secure funds for fighting these pests; but many valuable crops were destroyed nevertheless. There were terrible floods and hurricanes in widely separated parts of the country, and hundreds of lives were lost, so that national appeals had to be made to help the people rendered homeless. There were also epidemics of malaria so violent that it became a national concern to try to curb the disease. Labor strikes have been many, and that always means hard conditions for the families of the working men. Owing to a variety of causes, the peso was

greatly depreciated, and that means less buying power for the little money in the hands of the people. Threats of international difficulty, with its certain consequence of revolution at home, had a tendency all through the year to withdraw money from circulation, and to increase the burdens of all classes. Besides all these things, for the last half of the year there has been the systematic boycott by the adherents of the Roman Church to try and curtail the revenues of the government by denying themselves all those things which might pay taxes.

In view of all this, some of the figures in this report speak well for the devotion of the Bible-reading people of Mexico and the faithfulness of both our correspondents and colporteurs. The actual cash gifts from Bible Day offerings and individual gifts comes up very close to 2,000 pesos, which is not much less than \$1,000 U. S., and the circulation for the year comes close to 50,000 volumes.

Colporteurs

They do hard work, dangerous work, and get very little pay for it. During the present year they have been in more danger than usual in widely separated parts of the country, on account of the rousing of fanaticism among the Romanists. They seem to think it necessary to locate the blame for their own troubles, and any defenseless man or little group of Protestants out in the country have been made to suffer. Of the total number during the year, twenty-six in all, ten have been paid cash wages by a mission of the home church, or by one of the Mexican congregations. This is the working out of the plan outlined in the last report, and is still working well for all concerned. Once more the institute for our colporteurs was held just preceding the National Sunday-school Convention. Only seven were able to attend, as the distances are so great; one of these men had to walk four days from his home to get to the railroad station, and then travel two days in the train. At one of the public meetings this man gave a very thrilling testimony of the way he had been persecuted on account of his work and his faith. His house was burned one night, and he and his family obliged to escape as best they could.

This institute and the convention were held in the city of Guadalajara, and the afternoon work of the men in canvassing the city was highly appreciated by all of our people; it also aroused much bitterness in the camp of the enemies of free and open Bible circulation. The telling of experiences at night was a very interesting part of the gathering. One of the men told of selling a Gospel to a young girl, who tried to tear it as soon as she had it in her hands; and when she found the paper was too strong for that, she began to tear it with her teeth. When the bits were all blown away by the wind, she demanded a Bible and intimated that she would be only too glad to give to the colporteur himself the same sort of treatment.

The program of classes and lectures during the four days had been very carefully worked out, and once more we extend our thanks to the missionaries and the pastors of the Mexican Church who helped in teaching our workers the deeper truths of the Book of Life.

The First Cheap Bible from Roman Catholics

The Agency has given to each colporteur a subscription to the evangelical weekly, *El Mundo Cristiano*, and also a copy of the Bible published by a Roman Catholic agency in the city of El Paso. The latter is the first attempt of that church to put out a Bible in Spanish at a price so low that ordinary people will be able to buy it. The book contains all of the Apocrypha and many notes about the errors of all outside of the church; but the text is practically the same as the books put out by the Bible Society, and it is the testimony of our workers that it is a real aid in many cases to make sales and induce people to read. There have been so many cases of people being converted by reading the Roman Catholic editions of the Bible, that the Agency is glad to have the colporteurs tell people where this book can be obtained, advising them to send direct to the publishers. Of course, the price is very much larger than our cheapest edition.

Correspondents

There have been 260 different accounts on the books of the Agency during the year, besides a good many sales made in the office. The old idea that the Bible Society is a rich corporation and likes to give Bibles away is disappearing in Mexico. The Mexican assistant and chief clerk in the Agency has a very telling way of making people see this point, and he has been successful in getting in cash for some of the old accounts.

Drumming Up Trade

Owing to the laws relating to foreigners, it seemed much wiser for Sr. Marroquin to do most of the traveling during the year. He generally lays very careful plans for whatever he is going to do, and these tours were no exception to that practice. After deciding that he should go north from Mexico City to El Paso, and then across to Arizona and down the west coast, all the details of the traveling were left in his hands for execution. He studied the time-tables and wrote to fifty-two of the pastors and missionaries, giving the hour of his arrival and the exact length of his stay. He left Mexico City on February first, and returned exactly according to schedule on the 14th of April. In this way the very best possible results were obtained for the time and money expended on the trip. Knowing the average Latin temperament and way of doing things, the execution of a tour so extensive in such a very efficient and business-like way is a fine tribute to the ability of the man. But he is a man of big heart and keen insight as well. Besides reaching the hearts of boys

and girls in twenty schools, and addressing a large number of congregations of all different missions in this wide territory, he found some towns where the Baptists and Congregationalists were not working in friendly cooperation. It was strange that the pastors of these churches should come together at the railroad station going to meet a brother Mexican employed by the Bible Society. With his winning smile, but with a firmness that could not be mistaken, he said to them: "I will not be able to preach or hold any service here, unless you both agree to have union services, first in one church, and then in the other." And in three of the large towns on the west coast this was done for the first time in the year 1926—and Marroquin did it. The trip covered nearly 4,000 miles, and the letters of appreciation and gratitude, as well as the substantial Bible Day offerings, bear eloquent testimony as to the results.

Other journeys were made to gatherings and Bible conferences, and, of course, going to the National Sunday-school Convention brings our work before a large number of people. In the Mexico Agency we feel more and more the importance of going about the country, and letting the smaller congregations and the pastors know of the work of the Bible Society here and in all the rest of the world. From a purely business point of view it seems to pay. In a study of the sources of the largest and most regular gifts on Bible Day and of the places where they have the best and most attractive celebrations, it is very evident that the travels of the Agency staff produce good results.

Mr. Jordan's Books

We have used to great advantage a translation of two chapters from the book called "Central American Indians and the Bible." One of these chapters is headed with the title or caption: "A Scrap of Paper Starts Things in Guatemala." It tells how a poor and ignorant Indian, who was being terribly swindled and cheated by a witch doctor in an effort to find a cure for his sick child, saw a paper blowing in the wind. As it happened to be a leaf from a Testament, the man was led to a native pastor and preacher, who furnished a dose of castor oil and the Gospel. Rev. Jordan, formerly Secretary in Mexico and at his death Secretary in the Upper Andes, has made up this material in first-class story form, and it is being told in various parts of Mexico. The elements are such as would lend themselves to translation in many lands, and has the rare and telling combination of a little amusement with the deeply serious. Señorita Natalia Medina, who writes the letters in the office of the Agency, tells the tale beautifully, and makes the contrast between the magic rites of the witch doctor and the dose of medicine indicate a volume of meaning.

The other chapter in the same book, which makes a story equally good in every way, is: "Guatemala Sends Its First Missionary to the Indians of Bolivia." As the young Bolivian came to New York as

stoker on a freight steamer, this story is just as good for Sunday-schools in the United States as anywhere else, and has the added charm of a little love story, worth its weight in gold because it is all true; and that is a great thing, especially for a missionary love story. This is not the only material in this wonderful little book that we have found useful in the Mexico Agency. A good story is almost as enduring a monument as a great hymn, and we bless the memory of our dear brother.

General Publicity

Advertising in some of the large daily papers has been tried, but with our present appropriation to work on, it would seem to be rather too much of an experiment for the investment of very much money. Results are produced to some extent, and it looks as if a systematic course of advertising might pay; but we think it well to wait till we have more funds to give it a complete test.

The evangelical union weekly and several other denominational papers continue to be a great assistance to our work. With the necessary limit of only fifty-two issues for one year, to have twenty full pages besides one full Bible number is rather a good record for *El Mundo Cristiano*. *El Atalaya*, or the Watchtower, of the Baptist Mission in Mexico has printed much of our material. The Agency has been asked to furnish copy for a paper published in Spanish in California, and the secretary of one of the other agencies ordered one hundred copies of our special Bible number of *El Mundo*. The Agency catalogue is kept up to date with a new edition from time to time, and other tract and folder literature is constantly in demand from all over the field.

One very important item in general publicity is a clear and accurate statement of all the Bible Day offerings, and of many of the letters sent in to tell us of the programs used, and to thank us for the material published to aid the pastors in getting up the sermons on those occasions.

Bible Day

Ever since the beginning of our propaganda for Bible Day in Mexico, which began in the year 1919, it has been the rule of the Agency to send one-half of the entire amount to the Home Office as a gift from Mexico for world-wide Bible circulation. In the hatred and passion of the religious fight between the government and the Roman Church one very serious charge against the church has been that large sums of money were sent every year from the poor people of Mexico to the Vatican. This has caused comment in some quarters among our Protestant people, and the question has been raised as to the advisability of holding to our practice. So, in view of these facts, it seemed wiser to change and this year keep all of the Bible Day offerings for the expenses of the Agency. It does not really indicate a lack of missionary purpose on the part

of our missions, nor a lessening of true interest in spreading the Word of God in all parts of the world. What it does show is a desire to avoid mere slander and misrepresentation by those who do not want the people to have the true light, and a misunderstanding on the part of government officials about the work of the Bible Society.

Here is a list of the gifts under denominational divisions:

Denomination	Mexican Pesos
Presbyterian	497.38
Methodist Episcopal	218.01
Congregational	211.32
Methodist Episcopal, South	165.99
Presbyterian, Associate and Reformed.....	94.35
Church of Christ	72.60
Union Church (American)	50.00
Pilgrims	43.05
Baptists	38.80
Christian Church	38.00
Friends	35.85
Episcopal Church (American)	10.00
Interdenominational	9.00
Seventh-day Adventists	3.75
National Evangelical	2.26
Various small collections	47.16
Individual gifts	401.08
Total	1,938.58

These figures must be divided by 2 to find the amount in U. S. currency. It is certain that if all over the U. S. gifts were made every year in the same proportion to incomes, the mission boards would not have to be pondering over the places to make the cut in all their appropriations. These gifts have come from all parts of the country, and in very small amounts.

The Sunday-school Convention

The spirit of this gathering is of interest in this report, as it has its bearing on the chances for Bible circulation in the future. The spirit of nationalism is very much alive in Mexico, as in all other parts of the world. This convention is the only gathering in the year where all the Protestant forces come together, and especially the youth of the land, and talk over the matters that are of common interest to them all. The absence of missionaries was one very noticeable feature of this meeting, and the few who were present had very little to say. It was very evident, however, that the Mexicans were feeling the responsibility of the situation, and the main lines of serious discussion were on the subjects of better cooperation among all Christian people and some way to try to solve the staggering problem of the education of the great Indian population.

The Secretary Resigns

The following is a free translation of the paragraph published in *El Mundo Cristiano* in February, 1927, and which was written by Sr. Marroquin, now left in temporary charge of the work of the Agency:

"Most of our people already know of the resignation of Mr. Mellen as Secretary of the Bible Agency. Mrs. Mellen was unable to live in the altitude of the city of Mexico, but he himself declares that this was not the only cause for his action. Mr. Mellen is an advocate of the nationalist program, especially in the work of evangelism and missionary advance, and we certainly owe him a debt of gratitude for what he has done to educate the Mexican mind in the great field of Bible circulation. At his repeated request the American Bible Society has at last accepted his resignation, and he is now in the work of his own church in the city of Brooklyn, N. Y. Those who miss him most are we of the office staff of the Agency; for we have been his intimate colaborers during the last six years. But the pastors of all of the evangelical churches will miss him too; for he knew how to identify himself with us Mexicans, and so could do us the greatest possible good as a missionary and true Christian friend. And so it is his fault that such a heavy responsibility now rests upon our shoulders, until such time as the Bible Society decides upon the nomination of a permanent Secretary for the Agency to take his place. We have only dared to do this in the confidence placed in God, and also in the cheerful cooperation and help of all the missionaries and pastors of the churches in Mexico."

CASH STATEMENT IN PESOS, OR MEXICAN GOLD, OF THE MEXICO AGENCY OF
THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1926.

Cash on hand, January 1, 1926.....Mex. \$ 3,463.76

Receipts during the year as follows:

N. Y. Drafts from American Bible Society		
2,338.26 Dollars Mexican gold at 2 for 1.....	\$4,676.52	
Exchange	98.61	
Cash received from sales:		
Correspondents	10,123.90	
Roman Catholic New Testaments	148.40	
Concordances	986.40	
Tracts and Books not published by Bible Society...	110.22	
Empty boxes, etc.	18.91	
Donations:		
(1) Churches	\$1,537.50	
(2) Individuals	401.08	1,938.58
Total received during year		18,101.54
Total debit		Mex. \$21,565.30

Disbursements as follows:

Salaries of office force.....	\$9,155.00	
Rent	960.00	
Furniture and office expenses	1,357.01	
Traveling expenses	1,138.84	
Freight, duties, etc., on books.....	3,900.05	
*Traveling expenses of colporteurs	660.00	
Printing of catalogues, tracts, etc.....	2,052.86	
Miscellaneous expenses	1,447.63	
Total disbursements		20,671.39
Balance on hand, December 31, 1926.....		Mex. \$ 893.91

* Mainly expenses of holding annual institute.



CARIBBEAN AGENCY

The Caribbean Agency was established in 1892. It covers all the republics of Central America and the Canal Zone, and includes Venezuela, and the upper part of Colombia. The Scriptures circulated are chiefly in Spanish. The circulation for 1926 was 61,875. This brings the total circulation up to 939,749. The workers consisted of 9 colporteurs and 76 correspondents. The Rev. R. R. Gregory is Agency Secretary, with headquarters at the Bible House, Cristobal, Canal Zone.



O one who reads this report can feel that the Indians are now being neglected, at least so far as concerns getting the Word of God to them. They will need to be taught to read more widely, but it is gratifying to see the work of translation of the Scriptures progressing in the languages most familiar to them. And right here at our doors has taken place something of the marvel of reducing spoken languages to written form, — one of the greatest gifts of Christian missions to the world. The stories of helpful blacksmiths, oil men, telegraph men, and others, are gratifying to those interested in their fellow men. All the world seems to draw together when we read of those in Venezuela working for the subways in New York City, as they extract pitch from the pitch lake! Again the "House by the Crossroads" has rendered large service through the hospitality enjoyed by the many missionaries and their children who have been entertained at it during the year, an average of over twelve a month.

The headquarters of the Caribbean Agency is located in the Canal Zone at the center of an area where interesting events are crowding newspaper headlines.

As I look over the local papers of the last week in December, I read: "Panama Canal transits establish new record—Twenty-eight commercial vessels pass through the big ditch in one day without accident—The previous high record was twenty-five ships in May of 1923"; "From twelve to thirteen big tankers leave Venezuelan ports weekly loaded with crude oil for U. S. and Europe—Venezuela's oil output being speeded up"; "Extensive tourist traffic anticipated," and then a statement that "the scheduled tours for the dry season

1926-1927, beginning with the visit of the S. S. Arcadian to Cristobal on December 15 to 17, and the passage of the S. S. Belgenland through the Canal on December 22, include five around-the-world cruises, a cruise around South America, and fourteen special cruises through the West Indies, with calls at Cristobal."

Former Nicaraguan President, General Chamorro, arriving at Balboa on his way to Europe, in an interview with a newspaper correspondent, says that up to date at least five million dollars of damage and several thousand deaths have been caused by the revolution in Nicaragua.

The Tropical Oil Company in Colombia just finished laying a twenty-inch pipe line from the oil fields, located four hundred and fifty miles up the Magdalena River, to Cartagena. This is the road building age in these countries. Mexico will soon be linked by railroad with Guatemala, so that there will be direct passenger service between Mexico City and Guatemala City. In the very near future Salvador and Guatemala will also be united by steel rails.

One of the missionaries in Salvador writes that he is bringing a man for the government of Salvador to take charge of the physical education of the country, and adds: "He is a fine Christian fellow, and I hope this will lead to the organization of a Y. M. C. A. in the capital." Several of the countries served by the Agency have called in a financial expert to put their finances on a solid economic basis.

So we might continue writing about this and that. However, suffice it to say events of interest are crowding fast upon us, and we are, indeed, living in a day when great changes are taking place, by the development of natural resources and the application of modern knowledge to the problems of everyday life. For the first time in the history of these countries, the common people are really emerging from physical, political, educational, and religious bondage.

Molding Influences

It is our purpose to show in a concrete way that side by side of present day developments there are other factors, though not so often spoken of, which are helping to mold the lives of these people. To-day, we have a group of men and women, by no means a negligible force, armed with "the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God," who are wielding it as good soldiers of Jesus Christ in conquering Spanish-speaking America for him. We have had a good year in the circulation of the Scriptures, in spite of many difficulties put in the way of our workers by religious fanatics of the Roman Church who are opposed to the distribution of the Scriptures. Incidents like those related in the Book of Acts are still written by workers to-day. Blackberry patches still have their thorns; but as little Sammy, whose attention was called to his bleeding feet from the

briars, remarked: "But Mother will be pleased to have the berries," so the workers rejoice at the happy experiences the Book has brought to many.

If I were to choose a text for my report, I would take Romans 10:15 — "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things"; and 2 Timothy 2:9 — "But the Word of God is not bound."

Peter, the Blacksmith

Peter, the blacksmith, lived in a small town in Salvador. The other day his "anvil solo" came to an end, as he was suddenly called to lay down his tools to unite with the "Anvil Chorus" up yonder. The country neighborhood is sad, because he was a pillar of moral strength in it, and they miss him. He was converted through a copy of the Bible sent him by his brother-in-law from Costa Rica, and this book and Pilgrim's Progress were his intimate companions until he went home. The gospel was first preached in that community in his house, which became a center of Christian influence.

The Bible and a Telegraph Linesman

The silent missionary, the Bible, is very patient and waits for its opportunity. About ten years ago, when a telegraph line was being constructed in the interior of the Republic of Panama, a linesman gave a Bible to a native along the road. It remained an unknown book in that man's home for several years. Two years ago some one told him that there was a group of people in Panama City who could explain to him the contents of that book. Traveling some eighty miles, he spent two weeks at the Sea Wall Methodist Mission at Panama City, and took an intensive course of study under the mission's pastor. He then returned to tell others what he had learned. Recently, the superintendent of the mission received word to send him a minister and a school teacher. Three preaching points have been opened up. This man has evangelized the country for many miles around his home.

Don Ramon Hernandez

Don Ramon Hernandez served as a colporteur of the American Bible Society for many years in Guatemala. He was selling Scriptures in one of the fanatical regions when he was warned not to go to a certain community, or he would be chopped to pieces by machetes (long knives used to cut brush, etc.). Throwing these threats to the winds, he went on selling his books. Along the road he overheard a conversation between two men: "Where are you going?" asked one of the other. "They say there is a Mason up here, and I am looking for him with my machete. Come along, and we will get rid of this devil." The other agreed, and they started up the road together. "How are you, friends?" called out

Don Ramon, as he came near them. "We're going up the mountain, hunting for a Mason to kill him with our machetes." "What is a Mason?" asked Don Ramon. "A Mason is a terrible man, who does not believe in God," one of them replied. "Oh, is that so? Then he must be very bad indeed," replied Don Ramon. Then he drew out one of the Bibles he was carrying, and started to read several interesting portions of the Word. The men became intensely interested, and finally bought some of the books. Then Don Ramon told them that it would be a crime even to take a Mason's life, and they were in danger of landing in prison, and that they should abandon their plans. Regarding him now as a real friend, they took his counsel, and all three came happily down the mountain together,—another victory for Jesus Christ,—all of them carrying the Book that, according to Paul, breaks down the "middle wall or partition," and makes us "no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and of the household of God."

Indian Translation Work

During the last two years about one thousand dollars has been spent by the Versions Committee of the American Bible Society for translation work in Guatemala. The principal groups of the million and a quarter of Indians in Guatemala are as follows: The Mam Indians number about 100,000; the Quiché Indians, 300,000; and the Cakchiquels about 200,000.

The Rev. H. D. Peck, of the Presbyterian Mission, is working among the Mams. The Gospel of Matthew was to be ready for publication the latter part of 1926. Dr. and Mrs. Paul Burgess, of the Presbyterian Mission at Quezaltenango, and the Rev. Amos Bradley, of the Primitive Methodist Church, met several times in joint conferences with other native Indian workers and translated the Gospels of John and Matthew. One thousand copies of John were published three years ago, and almost all have been distributed. Copy for the publication of the other three Gospels and Acts is about ready for the press.

The Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Townsend, of the Central-American Mission, work among the Cakchiquel Indians. Mr. Townsend writes that, in November, the first class of Indian workers were graduated at their Bible institute at Panajachel. This marks an epoch in the work among these people. A few months ago we received a type-written copy of the first Cakchiquel grammar. Mr. Townsend writes they found over thirty root words that are either the same or quite similar in the Cakchiquel and Hebrew. He showed his grammar to one of the foremost linguists at Chicago University, and the professor was very much pleased with the way he had developed it.

The Townsends were in need of a new typewriter. A Bohemian Sunday school in Chicago heard about this need, and presented them

with a new Underwood typewriter which was fitted with a combined Spanish and Cakchiquel keyboard. Credit should be given to the Underwood Typewriter Company for granting a liberal discount on the machine. Recently, we contributed toward the buying of a safe wherein the various manuscripts and filing cards with words in Cakchiquel and Spanish and Greek equivalents might be preserved—for this represents several years of hard work. We might add that these missionaries are just at the beginning of a work that promises to grow into one of the most interesting bits of mission work in all of Central America. Lack of funds and workers fitted for such a task are the only obstacles in the way. The Indian is ready for the gospel and has demonstrated that the Bible is the book that finds him. They have keen minds and are fearless in the presentation of the Gospels to others, as the following story, told me by Mr. Townsend, proves:

And Felix Trembled

The students at the Indian Bible Institute go out over week ends in groups of two to evangelize. One Sunday, José Elias and José Morales walked twenty-four miles to Santa Catarina Ixtahuacan, a primitive town where the Indians reign in much of their pre-Spanish independence. After visiting two friendly officials, they began to evangelize in the public square, which was filled with people who had come in from nearby villages for Sunday market. Soon a mob of Indians swarmed around them and began to threaten them. The preachers stood their ground. Had they wavered for one moment, they would probably have been beaten and driven out of town. They met every attack and insult with the Word of God.

This disturbance was taking place at the door of the convent which fronts on the square. The priest, who had listened from his window, came out and told the mob either to escort the workers out of town or throw them into jail. José Elias (the only one of the two who can talk Spanish) turned on the black-robed representative of Rome and asked him what kind of a Christian he was, to preach hate to his parishioners. Before a sermon of love as Christ taught it, the priest took refuge inside the convent.

The Indians were puzzled at the courage of these messengers. They knew that they could do whatever they wished with the two men without danger of being punished by the nearest national authorities, who were miles away and mortally afraid of the Indian town. Other invaders of their mountain fastnesses had been killed with less provocation than this pair, who, in spite of all threats, persisted to preach this new religion. The priest is considered the "father" of the town, and his word carries more weight than that of the government officials. Some one suggested that they be taken before the priest for judgment. They were therefore straightway dragged within the convent.

The priest was standing with his mistress at the door of the dining-room. José Elias immediately took the situation in hand by offering him a New Testament and asked him to read the false teachings which he claims it contained. The priest refused. Then José said, "Well, I will read it, if you do not care to." After doing so, he asked the priest if he believed in God. "Why, of course," said the priest. "Why, then, do you teach the people to worship Santa Catarina?" José continued. The priest was in a great dilemma. Should he deny the charge, he would enrage the people; for they think more of the image of Santa Catarina, which they believe fell from heaven, than of all the Roman clergy and Pope. Should he admit it, he knew José would come back at him with the Bible. He became as meek as a lamb and listened as though he had never heard the gospel before. José showed him step by step the way of salvation and how he was keeping the people from the truth.

Miracle of miracles! This educated man, with a mob at his command, began to tremble from head to foot before two ignorant Indian preachers. He fumbled around for his cigarettes, but José went relentlessly on. The workers knew the Word of God, but the priest did not, and he found himself helpless. Whether or not conviction of sin came over him we do not know; but, confused and troubled, he told these two men to go and never return again. But José quoted Mark 16:15, and said that they would obey Christ rather than him. "All right," said the priest, "you may go. You are at liberty." José replied: "Our liberty is of God." Then in the Indian dialect, he addressed a few final words to the crowd and withdrew.

Progress in Venezuela

The circulation of Scriptures in Venezuela has increased over that of last year. Our principal correspondent was the Rev. Girard A. Bailly, of Caracas. For many years several of his workers have given part time to colportage work. Very interesting reports have come to us concerning trips made by his men. The population of Venezuela is approximately three million, and the greater number of the towns and cities most accessible have been visited by colporteurs of the British and Foreign Bible Society or ours. However, it is the work done in some of the out-of-the-way places which calls for more praise and support on our part, than has been given them. This kind of work is of the pioneer type and entails much inconveniences, traveling through sparsely settled regions where little, if any, religious work is organized; yet these people are numbered with the sheep whom the Master said should be brought into the fold.

Colportage Work in the Pitch Lake Regions

Themistocles Pérez, a tried colporteur and evangelist of many years service, made several trips into the northeastern part of

Venezuela, the part known as the pitch lake and oil region. A few lines from one of his letters give us an insight into the nature of the work that is being done by such faithful men.

"Last March I left Cumanacoa, near the Atlantic coast, with a mule loaded with two boxes of Bibles and my personal luggage. To cross a hundred miles through rugged mountains and through open and desolate savannahs where the sun burns almost like fire, and water and food are scarce, is a very serious undertaking.

"The first town of consequence I reached was Maturin. Through the influence of two employees of the Standard Oil Company, and natives of the Island of Trinidad, I got permission from the mistress of the boarding house to preach the gospel in her parlor. So we had the first evangelistic service ever held in that town, with a good attendance of both English and Spanish people. From Maturin I went to the oil station of Quiriquire in a motor car belonging to one of the foremen of the Company. We arrived at midnight, and next day I proceeded in a truck to Sabaneta, where there were over four hundred people engaged in road building for the Company. I sold several Bibles among them. After visiting several other places, I returned again to Maturin. Then I went to Caño Colorado in a truck, and by gasoline launch of the Standard Oil Company to Guanoco. This is a pretty little town about sixty miles from Maturin, and surrounded by thick forests. It is a pity that so much corruption exists there.

"The New York and Bermudez Company has about a thousand men employed at the pitch lake. I am told that the pitch used in the construction of the subways in New York is secured from this lake because of its special quality. No real Christian work is done among these men. There at the pitch lake I saw a group of people who aroused my pity because of their ill treatment and neglect. They speak a language all their own, and belong to the wild Guaraunos who come from many miles to sell fish and game, and to buy trifles such as glass beads or aluminum chains. The men carry their burdens in a basket of a peculiar form, and the women hang their babies in a sort of hammock around their breasts, so that the little ones can suck whenever they please, and the women's hands are free to do something else. I am sorry I did not have a camera to take a picture of them. On this trip I sold all the Bibles and Testaments and portions I had brought with me. I hope I may be able to visit these places again some time in the future."

Two New Workers—Colportage and Evangelistic Work in Panama and Salvador

This year we were able to carry out on a larger scale, a project that has been on my heart for several years. In last year's report I made mention of the thousands of English-speaking colored folks, almost all from the West Indies, working on the various United

Fruit Company's plantations along the Atlantic coast of the Central-American republics. There are eight such places where each year from one to eight million stems of bananas are exported. These sections are woefully undermanned by religious workers, and naturally one finds a shortage of Bibles among the people.

Mr. Schulert

We secured the services of Mr. L. B. Schulert, a missionary in Nicaragua, one especially adapted for colportage work. A systematic canvass was made in the United Fruit Company's fields in Panama and Costa Rica, and on several islands in the Caribbean Sea, with population numbering into the thousands; also among the large colored population in the cities of Colon and Panama, and in the Canal Zone. Mr. Schulert's work was blessed with the sale of over 2,100 Bibles and over 500 Testaments. Last year, I wrote about the large sales from the pay car of the United Fruit Company at Almirante, and from other easily reached places. This year, more time was given to the out-of-the-way places. One appreciates the value of such effort when considering the many miles to be traveled on foot in the heat of the tropical sun, and during the rainy season, and the hours spent in personal work and preaching services.

Mr. Halliday

Many calls have come to us from missionaries for an experienced colporteur-evangelist, one who knows how to train native workers in the art of Bible distribution. It is surprising to know really how much territory still remains to be occupied by missionary forces. We found such a man in Mr. R. C. Halliday, from Canada, a Toronto University man. Several years ago he spent some time in Nicaragua, but after a short period was compelled to leave on account of ill health. While we were looking for such a man, Mr. Halliday was praying that the way might open up for him to return to Central America. Mr. Halliday came to us in April, and at once began his work in the northwestern part of the Republic of Panama. The Methodist Episcopal Mission gladly offered the services of a native worker. Three months were spent in the Province of Chiriqui, and practically every village and town was visited; many preaching services were held in homes and public squares, and several times in jails and saloons. The report written by Mr. Halliday at the close of this campaign gives a splendid survey of the needs of that field, and the places most open to the gospel.

In August, Mr. Halliday started a similar campaign in Salvador. We wish to express our thanks to the missionaries in Salvador for the splendid cooperation given him. From the day he arrived, the Baptist Mission put at his disposal two young men and mules to help in a campaign among villages and towns not accessible by railroad. Scores of towns and villages off the beaten track were visited,

many of which had never been touched by an evangelistic worker. Mr. Halliday has taken careful notes of his work, and many of his experiences read like chapters from the Acts of the Apostles. Opposition and difficulties? Yes, plenty of them. But, then, he also has met many receptive hearts, and the joy of bringing to them the gospel has amply repaid for the hard, long trips, lack of proper food, and proper accommodations in many instances.

This is the kind of work that is making a real contribution to missions. Not only is the Word sown, but several young men are receiving training under an experienced worker, and taught how to distribute the Word, and given opportunity to testify of the power of God unto salvation. We had thought of sending Mr. Halliday to Guatemala the fore part of 1927, but the missionaries in Salvador have begged the Society that he remain a few months longer. In fact, it is impossible to cover very much territory in a short time. We have begun to realize that there is enough work before us to take several years to accomplish.

The House by the Crossroads of the World

The Panama Canal is oftentimes called the "Crossroads of the New World." The Bible House is a stone's throw away from the entrance through which most all the passengers arriving at the Atlantic side of the Canal have to pass, in order to enter Cristobal or Colon. This is a very busy center, where we meet all sorts of people.

With the changing conditions in Spanish-speaking America, the increase of tourists is very noticeable. The other day a lady tourist rushed into the Bible House and asked for a Bible. She had just received a cable from a rabbi friend, and wanted to know what the Old Testament verse meant which he quoted in the cable. We did not make a sale, but we had the satisfaction of bringing joy to her heart, for the verse read: "The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee."

We had the pleasure of meeting a hundred and eleven missionaries and thirty-six missionary children, some of whom stayed with us from a day to a week or more. Many and varied are the calls that come to us from missionaries. Some write asking if we can provide lodging for them at such and such a time. Others ask us to book passage for them, and perhaps look after stray baggage; or else they request us to rebill freight shipments, or to buy certain articles and send them along with missionaries who are soon to pass through. We are always glad to accommodate them, if we know exactly what is wanted.

With the coming and going of so many people through the Canal, the Bible House finds a large opportunity to sell Bibles and Testaments, and distribute thousands of portions.

Statistics

In reply to several requests made that we give the yearly circulation by countries, we present the following statement:

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Guatemala	1,347	1,572	1,250	4,169
Honduras	604	329		933
Nicaragua	632	889	4,305	5,826
Costa Rica	1,790	748	3,600	6,138
El Salvador	594	544	5,902	7,040
Venezuela	435	854	3,254	4,543
Colombia	969	639	6,283	7,891
Panama, Canal Zone, and Bible House Depository	2,509	1,393	19,553	23,455
	8,880	6,968	44,147	59,995
Donations	74	32	1,774	1,880
Total	8,954	7,000	45,921	61,875

UPPER ANDES

The Upper Andes Agency was constituted in 1920. It includes the southern part of Colombia, with Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. There were 12 colporteurs and 20 correspondents assisting in the circulation of the Scriptures during 1926, and it totaled 50,883 volumes. This brings the circulation of the Agency to 202,561 volumes. The Rev. Robert H. Milligan, D.D., is Agency Secretary, at Apartado No. 407, Lima, Peru.



THE death of the Rev. W. F. Jordan on August 7, 1926, has taken from this Agency the one who inaugurated it in 1920 and directed it from that time. This is a severe loss not only to the Agency but especially to the millions of Indians of varied tongues so long neglected by Protestant forces in South and Central America. Tribute to him has come from many sources, and something of his useful life has been told in the *Bible Society Record*. The burden that lay on his heart is reflected in the quotation from his last book on Ecuador at the end of the report which follows. This last message, with which the report closes, is a challenge and a summons. But there are other lives and influences still at work in this Agency, some of them perhaps in humble circumstances. The story of Zoila Mariscal is saddening and gladdening; and such incidents as that of "The Bible and Six Cholos" show how worth while is the distribution of the simple Word of God, although, like many another seed, it may not bear fruit rapidly. This Agency has the largest increase in circulation of Scriptures, during the year, of any Agency in Latin America, except that of Brazil, there having been an increase of over 40 per cent in the circulation of Bibles and of Testaments, and about 50 per cent in portions,—the total increase, as noted above, being from 27,806 volumes in 1925 to 50,883 in 1926. The Rev. Robert H. Milligan, D.D., with experience both in the foreign mission field and the home pastorate, was appointed Agency Secretary in February, 1927, and has entered on his duties.



"To a colaborer in Christ's vineyard, where our mutual friend, the author, was so richly blessed of God," these were the words the Rev. Alfred C. Snead, of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, wrote on the flyleaf of a copy of the late Rev. W. F. Jordan's last book—"Ecuador—A Story of Missionary Achievement," which he presented to me when I was in New York in September. Would that our friend and colleague had been spared to write the report of the work among the people he loved, and for whom he gave of himself! Since I have been asked to prepare the report of the Upper Andes Agency for 1926, I dedicate the story of last year's work to our late friend, in the lines just quoted above.

The Field

The field comprised the southern part of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. We might say it is composed of a strip of territory several hundred miles wide in parts, with a coast line of about 1,500 miles, and, running through its entire length, the backbone of the Andes. It covers an area of about a million and a half square miles, and contains a population of over eleven million people. The same might be said of this territory, as an explorer who had visited Mexico, in describing the mountainous condition of the country to the King of Spain, took a sheet of paper in his hands, and crumpling it up, threw it on the table, and said: "That is Mexico." Relatively speaking, there are few railroads or wagon roads, and because of poor transportation facilities, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Peru rank among the most expensive countries in the world for colportage work.

COLOMBIA

We were especially grateful for the splendid cooperation of the Rev. C. P. Chapman, pioneer missionary of the Cauca Valley, with headquarters at Cali; of the Rev. Theodore Johnson at Palmira, and the Rev. William Poehner at Pereira. Through their efforts 797 Bibles, 412 Testaments, and 3,455 portions were circulated. Southern Colombia, with over one million people, is a rich soil for Bible Society prospectors. The last few years have seen a great change in this part of Colombia. Cali, the largest city, now has a modern sewerage system; paved streets are being laid, and miles of railroad have been pushed out in several directions from the city, opening up a way to the Pacific coast for the rich resources of southern Colombia. This year, four new missionary families have moved into the field. Much fruit may now be gathered because of the gospel seed sowing. The people are becoming conscious that they are a part of a growing world.

ECUADOR

What an interesting field this becomes when one reads Mr. Jordan's last book on Ecuador. In writing of the last thirty years of missionary achievement, the work of the colporteur looms up large in the background. The space allowed to this report might easily be

given to Bible work in Ecuador. We were fortunate in having as our representative John M. Reed, the youngest son of the Rev. Wm. E. Reed. In reading his letters I have oftentimes remarked, "There is a young man who some day would make a most efficient Agency Secretary." John, though still in his teens, is one of the most remarkable young men I have ever met. For insight into our problems, and clearness of stating facts, and giving suggestions in order to increase the efficiency of the Agency, he is a genius. Without his keen interest in Bible distribution, we could not record 737 Bibles, 1,430 Testaments, and 15,865 portions circulated; and this, too, in a country which has been called one of the most backward of the South-American republics. A wonderful work has been accomplished through two colporteurs, a man and a woman, who have been encouraged and kept on in the work by him, in spite of shortage of funds.

Zoila Mariscal, the Bible Woman

Sra. Mariscal is too interesting a character to pass by without notice. She is gifted in salesmanship. Of the total circulation for Ecuador during the year, this woman sold 226 Bibles, 149 Testaments, and 6,149 Gospels. Mr. Reed writes that she sold most of these books in Guayaquil, where colporteurs have worked so incessantly for many years.

On page 113 of his book, Mr. Jordan writes: "Zoila Mariscal never had a chance to be decent. She is a daughter of a disreputable woman, who makes her living by traffic in vice. Zoila was attractive and grew up to be a notorious character of the city. When still a young girl, she left her disreputable home and went to live with a man prominent in business and political circles in Guayaquil. He was unmarried, seemed to love her, was kind, provided for all her needs, and kept her in a nicely furnished apartment. This man did for her what her mother had never done. He taught her to read and took an interest in her intellectual development. While living thus with this man, she became very unhappy. Looking into the future, she could see that this man would soon tire of her, and she would be again cast upon the world without resources.

"At this time she became convicted of the sinfulness of her life. She had heard of a convent in Quito, where women of her character could repent for their sins, and devote the rest of their lives to good works. 'Receiving no answer from a letter to Quito regarding entrance to the convent for women such as I,' said she, telling her own story, 'I went to the hospital in Guayaquil to see the Mother Superior with whom I had been acquainted from childhood. The Mother Superior was sick upon her deathbed, so I could not see her. As I was leaving the hospital, I saw a weeping woman descend from the street car. My sympathies were at once aroused, and I turned to accompany her into the hospital. She told me her husband was dead. I went in with her to the place where he lay. In the room

with the dead body we found Colporteur Cardenas, the brother of the deceased. I recognized him as the "Bible man," for he had frequently tried to sell me a book. None of those in the room was offering prayers for the soul of the dead man, as is customary with Romanists. This seemed very strange, and I could not refrain from asking: "Why do you not pray for the repose of his soul?" "Because he is already safe," was the reply. "He does not need our prayers any longer. It is those who are left who need help." This last was spoken with an assurance that deeply impressed Zoila. She asked if she might go home with the friends and stay with those who were to watch with the body until burial, and then attend the funeral with them.

"With these Protestant friends, during the night of watch, Zoila heard the gospel for the first time in her life. 'Can this be the true religion?' was the question of her hungry soul. She very eagerly accepted the invitation to attend services in the mission house. After a period of struggle, light broke in upon her soul, and she was happily converted. She left the shelter of the man with whom she had been living, and returned to dwell in the humble home she had before purchased with the proceeds of the furniture. Such has been the change in her life, that she has the profound respect of all who know her, especially of those who were acquainted with her before the conversion.

"During the house-to-house campaign conducted by the Rev. G. P. Simmonds in July, 1925, when he asked for volunteers to sell Bibles on the streets of Guayaquil, Zoila was among the first to respond. She was so successful in selling Bibles, and her statements were so fruitful in bringing others to Christ, that it was decided to employ her as a Bible woman in the city. Her sweet, happy face is to be seen daily on the street, often in earnest conversation with those whom she meets. People who know her past have great respect for her, and every once in a while a new face appears in the mission chapel, brought by her simple testimony and kind intervention."

PERU

What would the late Francis Penzotti say if he knew that the year 1926 reported 1,932 Bibles, 3,314 Testaments, and 21,162 portions circulated in Peru? It is not many years ago since he suffered nine months in prison in Callao for the crime of circulating the Scriptures. Give the Bible a chance, and it becomes one of the greatest humanizing forces in the world.

The first four months and the last two months of the year, the Society was represented by the Rev. G. P. Simmonds. He is a tireless worker. Many parts of Peru were visited and services held. Large numbers have listened to his rich bass voice, and have received a deeper conception of the gospel through his illustrated lectures on Bible characters and scenes. The presence of Mr. Simmonds in

Peru has put new life into the activities of the Society. The entire country is practically open to the gospel. Everywhere large groups of her population of six millions are reaching out for the gospel. Our work there is as large as we wish to make it. The only hindrance is insufficient funds to enlarge the work.

In a recent letter, Mr. Simmonds enclosed a report for a certain period, giving a circulation for six churches and two colporteurs as 553 Bibles, 1,160 Testaments, and 11,787 Gospels. He writes: "I wish we could send in a report like that every quarter"; and then wishes to know whether or not we would have funds sufficient to continue throughout the year a certain colporteur, whose report shows a circulation of over 9,600 volumes of Scriptures in eight months.

We desire to thank the missionaries and colporteurs for their splendid work "in carrying on" during the six months Mr. Simmonds was in the States. We also register our thanks to the Christian and Missionary Alliance for their part in the agreement entered into with Mr. Jordan, that they finance half of Mr. Simmonds' expenses if he would give part time service to their work in Peru.

BOLIVIA

Bolivia is the largest of the republics served by the Agency. It is about two and a half times the size of France; larger than Peru, but has only about half the population, which consists mainly of Indians and Cholos (half castes).

The Agency looked to its able representative, the Rev. H. C. McKinney, for the direction of circulation of Scriptures, and the supervision of Indian translation work. The circulation as given in the 1926 report does not do Bolivia justice. If Mr. McKinney's report had been received in time to include it in the last half yearly report, the total circulation for the year would have been over 1,200 Bibles, 800 Testaments, and about 5,400 portions.

The Bible and Six Cholos

The Rev. V. D. Roberts, of Aquille, Bolivia, tells us an interesting story of a little group of believers he found in a town eight leagues from his station, which had been the fruit of the reading of the printed Word of God only. It seems that in Misque an old man possessed a Bible, but had never heard any preaching or explanation of its contents. He used to call in a young man named Geronimo, and talk with him about the Book, saying that this was the truth of God, and when he died a year ago, he left the Bible to his young friend.

When Mr. Roberts heard of Geronimo, through a traveling candy-maker, he went to visit him, and found him well acquainted with the Bible, knowing many passages by heart. He received Mr. Roberts most hospitably, and brought in four friends who, like himself, were eager to hear the true doctrines explained.

One of these, named Aufronio, was devoted to the worship of the

Virgin, and spent half his capital erecting and furnishing a chapel in her honor, hoping thus to gain merit and forgiveness. He was greatly troubled about his sins, and when he went to confession, the priest, seeing his anxiety, told him that his was an especially flagrant case and that he could obtain absolution only by going to the Pope himself. This put Aufronio in still greater distress, but upon further consideration the priest told him that he might be pardoned upon payment of twenty-five dollars, which the poor man gladly paid. Soon after this he became involved in a lawsuit and lost all he had, and had to begin again as a common laborer. At this time a Gospel of Matthew fell into his hands, and he had his son read it to him; he became so interested that he was not satisfied until he learned to read it himself, which he did little by little, leaning the book against a clod of dirt as he chewed his cocoa leaf and dug in the fields.

Another, named José, when digging the foundations of his house some years ago, had unearthed a stone marked with the form of a cross, and as such objects are regarded with superstitious veneration by the ignorant people of Bolivia, he carried it to the village priest, who told him that it was of no consequence. When, however, this priest was replaced by another, José again went to consult about the stone, and the new priest told him that God had appeared to him in the stone, and that he must build a chapel to house it. This he was preparing to do, when young Geronimo began to explain to him the truth as revealed in the Bible. José soon abandoned his plans to build the chapel, and set about to study the Word for himself. As he was then unable to read, he set to work and taught himself.

Learning what God says about worshipping images, he has destroyed his large crucifix, and has built himself a special bench under some trees back of his house which he calls his place of prayer, where he can read and meditate. He has remained sober through all the feasts, to the great astonishment of his neighbors, and as he lives on the edge of town where many Indians camp and leave their animals in his care when they come on business, he preaches to them the true gospel and warns them to leave off superstition and drunkenness.

In all six men had come to know the truth before Mr. Roberts' visit, through the instrumentality of a Bible sold years ago by we know not whom.

Aymara and Quechua Translations

During the year the Society paid out \$875 in aiding two groups of workers in translation work; one in Bolivia, and the other in Peru. In a recent letter from Mr. McKinney, we are informed that Mark and Luke are done, and the Gospel of Matthew almost completed.

In Sicuani, Peru, we are cooperating with the Rev. Len Herniman of the Evangelical Union of South America, to the extent of paying half of the expenses in making another edition of the Gospels in the language of the Incas. The fore part of the year, Mr. Jordan

requested that Mr. McKinney visit Mr. Herniman for the purpose of investigating the translation work. As one reads Mr. McKinney's report of this visit, one begins to realize that the work of translation has many difficult problems to solve; and I wonder if we really appreciate the obstacles to be overcome in trying to convey the thought of the Bible into an Indian dialect, where words have to be coined that will express the correct meaning. Heretofore, there has been the tendency of including many Spanish words for which Indian words could be used. Mr. Jordan asked the translators to avoid the use of Spanish words wherever possible. On this point Mr. McKinney writes: "You need not fear that José Farfan, the native translator, has not paid attention to those instructions. In fact, he probably took them too seriously; for he has even gone to the length of translating the proper name of 'Fariseo' with the long phrase — 'Iscai-soncco-Apucc-sutimpi-camachequeyocc.' He seemed quite glad when I told him that, that being a proper name, he need not bother to translate it. He says he reads the translation to the Indians, and they understand it."

He also reports: "I took a trip twenty-five miles down the valley from Sicuani, in company with Mr. Herniman and another missionary, Mr. Jardine, and José Farfan, and visited three points where they go regularly to preach. In the twenty-five miles we passed through five large Indian towns. There is a correspondingly dense population of Indians in the small valleys, nearly all of them being free Indians of the comunidades, though some are hacienda Indians. We held several meetings, and fifteen to twenty Indians were present at each place. Mr. Jardine preached, and I told them about our La Paz Indian believers, and José Farfan interpreted for both of us. At Juanura, they are ready to commence work on a school building, and José will be the teacher."

A Crusade That Failed

A sure sign that real progress is being made in evangelizing the Indians, is the open opposition of the Roman Church. The fore part of the year, Mr. McKinney wrote: "Things are very interesting in La Paz just now because of a 'Gran Cruzada Nacional Pro-Indio,' which was started by the clergy in obedience to an order from the Pope — they claim. It started with a great series of organizing banquets and dances, with the most prominent people on the committees and as patrons, etc., and looked like a big thing. But, after a week or two, and before they had actually started their collecting of money, a good deal of opposition showed itself on the part of the university students, labor organizations, and liberal elements generally.

"The Gran Cruzada Nacional went in strong for advertising by posters plastered all over the city, and the first opposition was in the shape of anonymous posters pasted over the others and ridiculing the crusade and its methods and motives, and the clergy. Now the

opposition is quite open and is actually organizing against the "Crusade." In the workmen's societies plenty of speakers have talked freely against the clergy, and regarding the crusade all say that the Indian is the victim of the priests and needs to be saved from them rather than by them. They all seem to recognize that the crusade is really planned against the "evangelicals," to save the Indians for the Roman Catholic clergy; and that, if it has any other motive, it is that the priests may line their pockets. The newspapers recently reported that the President had signed a decree forbidding the Seventh-day Adventists from teaching anything derogatory to the national clergy, in the Province of Ingavi, which is the province around Viacha. That, if interpreted broadly, might be used to stop all their work there. Whether justly or not, the opposition has taken that as a fruit of the crusade and as showing its true character. There is going to be still more excitement about all this; but I think the crusade is sure to prove a failure." A few months later, we were informed that the above crusade was called off by the church, because it was doomed to fail.

A Great Unfinished Task

Mr. Jordan looked upon the evangelization of the millions of Indians in Spanish-speaking America as one of the most important tasks before the American Bible Society, and to this end gave the greater part of his time. For that purpose he wrote "Glimpses of Indian America," "The Central American Indian and the Bible," and "A Story of Missionary Achievement—Ecuador." Mr. Jordan writes on this unfinished task in the last four pages of his book on Ecuador:

"A great deal has been said and written about the opportunities for investment in the development of the vast material resources of South America. We hear comparatively little, however, of the call for the investment of life, capital, and influence in the undeveloped human resources of the continent.

"The Indian constitutes the greatest undeveloped resource of Ecuador. Two-thirds of the population is pure Indian, only seven per cent white, and the rest is mixed blood. This last element is the most accessible to the gospel, and in it we find the key to the problem of the evangelization of the country.

"The Indian is everywhere susceptible to the touch of loving sympathy that he can see and feel. He has few abstract terms in his vocabulary, but he is keen to read the language of deeds of kindness. God speed the medical mission!

"The first view of the Cordillera Real, that long unbroken line of snow-clad giants in Bolivia, of the oval form of the massive Chimborazo and the smoking cone of Tunguragua in Ecuador, towering in majestic grandeur above the awe-inspiring panorama of mountain and valley, causes impressions that seem never to fade, but to become a part of one's very being. Profound and enduring also are

the imprints left on the mind and heart by the spectacle of the mass of grovelling Indian humanity in the midst of this indescribable scenic beauty.

"Old and young of both sexes are treated as beasts of burden. Women transport on their backs along the city streets two-hundred-pound sacks of grain or other merchandise. The writer will never forget his first glimpse of a white-haired old woman staggering into a mountain city bowed nearly double under an enormous load of fagots.

"On my first visit to Quito, a girl, not more than fifteen, bent her back and shoulders and trudged along the crowded street under the weight of my steamer trunk. Until the burden had been safely deposited in my room and the bearer well paid, I had the feeling that I ought to be shouldering that trunk myself. The following day a woman carrying five beefheads on her back and a babe in her arms, passing through the plaza in front of the magnificent cathedral, rested her load on the stone steps while she nursed the baby.

"Such scenes impress and modify the fibers of the soul and fill one with thankfulness for the message of the Book that ennobles manhood, sanctifies womanhood, glorifies motherhood, and stamps the image of its Maker upon the heart of a child.

"The preacher, the teacher and the doctor pass on, but the Book remains to point to the living God and to show the way to salvation through his dear Son. Wisely and well have those missionaries labored who have sought to secure a wide circulation of the printed Word and to direct the people to its pages.

"Much, however, remains to be done. There are great stretches of territory that, because of the expense involved, are seldom or never visited by the Bible distributor. Then there are the Indian languages and dialects. Translations of the Gospels are urgently needed in these, first for the workers who shall go, so that they may be able to read the wonderful message to each in his own tongue; afterward, for the Indians themselves, who, as they shall learn to read, will not only be able to understand the message in their own tongue, but by the aid of the parallel column diglot editions, will be helped in acquiring the language of their rulers. This is distinctly the work of the Bible Society and necessitates much arduous toil and costly labor; but our tasks will not be complete until every man can hear 'in his own language wherein he was born' the wonderful message of salvation."

Statistics and Conclusion

In the foreword of the report for 1925, we read: "As this Agency was organized only five years ago, comparison cannot be made for a decade. An advance in the circulation of the Scriptures is indicated by the fact that, in 1920, the total circulation was 14,257, while in 1925, 27,806 volumes were circulated." It might be interesting to

note a further comparison of the volumes circulated during a period of three years as given below:

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
1924	3,020	3,127	15,578	21,725
1925	2,649	3,355	21,802	27,806
1926	3,497	5,252	42,134	50,883

The words with which Mr. Jordan closed his 1925 report are just as fitting now as then. He wrote: "We are but touching the fringe of a continent of possibility. Increased funds are urgently needed, not only to reach the isolated and distant sections, but to enable us to prepare Gospels in the Aymara of the Lake Titicaca region and the Quechua of Peru and of Ecuador, in order to pave the way for the imminent awakening of these Indian peoples."

LA PLATA AGENCY

The La Plata Agency was established in 1864. With the exception of Venezuela and Colombia, it has included all the republics of South America in which the Spanish language prevails; viz., Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Ecuador, Peru, Chile, and Bolivia. In 1920, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia ceased to be a part of this Agency, they having been constituted "The Upper Andes Agency." The circulation in the La Plata Agency for 1926 was 134,300 volumes, making a total of 2,314,799 volumes since the establishment of the Agency. Two hundred and eighteen persons have been employed in this distribution—18 colporteurs and 200 correspondents. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Paul Penzotti, Calle Parana, 481, Buenos Aires, Argentina.



SOUTH AMERICA seems preeminently the continent where the printed Word of God has been a peculiarly effective pioneer, both in winning individuals to faith in Christ and in consequent establishment of congregations and churches. The report here presented illustrates this. Near its opening are given two particularly interesting incidents, in the stories of the man who equipped his pastor with a car, and the man who gave up his business to circulate the Scriptures. Near the end of the report is the testimony of the present Secretary, who has seen service in another mission field, and also in the pastorate in South America, and who says, "The more I visit this vast field, the more I am persuaded that the Bible has been the main agency in God's hand to enlighten South America. It has done more than anything else in changing the opinion of the thinking men and women of our land." A story of peculiar interest, also found in these pages, is that of the Rev. Claudio Celada, who has just written a "Life" of the late Rev. F. G. Penzotti. The last link, with earlier days of work and leadership in the circulation of the Scriptures throughout this great continent, has been severed by the death of Mrs. Francis G. Penzotti, who was a notable supporter of her apostolic husband, as well as a devoted mother to her large family of sons and daughters, and grandchildren. Indicative of how the world is being drawn to-

gether, and its parts made sensitive to what happens elsewhere, are the closing sentences of the report about the word "American."

During the year 1926 we have tried, in a special way, to reach the far-away places where people had not been reached by our colporteurs. To do this, we engaged fifteen men, who have given all their time to the work of our Society, and who traveled quite extensively over Argentina and Uruguay. We feel that the large cities have been well worked, but that the rural population has not been reached as has been our desire; however, during this year our men have visited practically all the provinces.

We are glad to report that the different denominations working in these countries are getting more and more interested in Bible distribution, so that several of them have Bible coaches, with which they travel all over this field. Mr. Yoder, a missionary in Rio Cuarto, has done very good work with his Bible coach. We are always ready to furnish him, gratis, with all the books he needs, for his work. The Brethren have had also a Bible coach for several years working specially in the north of Argentina. The Evangelical Union of South America have two Bible coaches, in the province of Buenos Aires.

Besides our colporteurs and the Bible coaches, we have been furnishing books to over two hundred correspondents, all over this wide field.

Summary of Work for the Year

Colporteurs employed	15
Bibles sold	9,693
Testaments sold	11,318
Gospels sold	111,632
	132,643
Bibles donated	99
Testaments donated	73
Gospels donated	3,256
	3,428
Total distribution	136,071
Cost value of books sold	\$12,842.30
Cost value of books donated	157.13
Total value	\$12,999.43
Discount given to missionaries	\$9,914.22
Travel expense of colporteurs	\$987.65
Compensation for colportage	\$11,385.32
Days spent by colporteurs in service of Society	5,906
Miles traveled	81,450
Cities visited	857
Amount contributed locally for the work	\$4,234.98

A Valuable Donation

A man was converted during the year, through Bible reading. In order to show his gratefulness for the benefit received, he went to his pastor and donated a "Ford," requesting us to furnish the books necessary for an extended trip into the interior — which we gladly did. The pastor is now a happy missionary, able to do good work among his own people, and helping us in the distribution of the Word.

A prominent business man called on us last month. He has been a member of the church for many years, but was not converted. Some time ago a lady missionary came to this country to do evangelistic work, and he was gloriously converted. He has now given up his business and informed us that he wants to devote the rest of his life to colportage work. We had been praying a great deal for his conversion and are now very glad that he is to cooperate with us in this blessed work.

Our Depositories

We have four of them in this Agency. The main one is in Buenos Aires. Then we have one in Montevideo, one in Santiago, Chile, and one in Asuncion, Paraguay. Besides these main offices, we have several smaller ones, scattered in different parts of this Agency, under the direction of missionaries.

We have felt right along that it was our duty, little by little, to raise the prices of our books, which so far have been sold under cost price. Argentina is a rich country and can well afford to pay for our well-bound books. We have had no difficulty in disposing of the books which we now offer at cost price. Missionaries get 50 per cent discount price on the books, provided they buy them for distribution. We feel that it is a grave mistake to give the books away as is being done by some agencies. People here appreciate a book more when they pay for it.

During the year we have also made a special effort to sell better bound books, with great success. We have visited the higher class in their homes and offices, selling a large number of leather-bound books.

The Union Bookstore

When the Latin-American Evangelical Congress met in Montevideo last year, a recommendation was made that we should establish in Buenos Aires a union bookstore. We are glad to report that we have been able to cooperate with the different denominations interested in this project, which is now a reality. A union book company was organized during the year, and on the 1st of December they moved to our premises, Parana 481. It is our privilege to cooperate with them, allowing them to use one half of our space, they paying also one half of the rent. In that way we have been able to make possible a long-felt want. We have not joined with them in any way, except that we share with them in the expenses, such as rent, lighting, heat, telephone, etc. In helping them, we naturally lighten the burden of our own expenses, which are very heavy in Buenos Aires.

Lack of Books

The number of Bibles circulated during the year has been rather small on account of the fact that our appropriation will not allow us to meet the constantly growing demand for the Book. In order to supply the colporteurs and missionaries with the books needed, we must have at least 20,000 Bibles yearly. At present we get only half that amount.

URUGUAY

Uruguay is the smallest but the most progressive country in South America. The population reaches nearly two millions of people. We have given special attention to Uruguay during the year. The splendid Bible coach which the Waldensians donated to our Society, in memory of my father, the Rev. F. G. Penzotti, has helped us greatly. I have traveled very extensively over all the republic, making in all six trips, selling some 400 Bibles, 500 Testaments and 5,000 Gospels.

Our work with the Bible coach consists in visiting the remote places, specially in the north, reaching farms (estancias) where our colporteurs have not been able to work on account of the distances. We carry with us also a good lantern, with slides illustrating our work all over the world; also pictures on the life of Christ. The largest congregations in Uruguay have met around our Bible coach, sometimes having over five hundred people. At the close of the service we sell our books.

Uruguay is now ready for a special evangelistic campaign, and we are glad to report that, while we are writing our annual report, Mr. Strachan is in that republic, making preparations for a campaign, taking with him a large tent. It will be our privilege to go with him in that campaign, with Bibles, and help in this important work.

The colportage work in the capital, Montevideo, is carried on by our faithful colporteur Antonio Fidalgo, who, with his bicycle, is a well-known figure all over the great city. His sales are always good. Mr. Chaplin, our sub-Agent, since his return from his furlough in England, has been in Uruguay, in charge of the Bible coach.

PARAGUAY

We were glad of the opportunity offered us this year of making a special campaign in Paraguay, thanks to the generosity of a Waldensian, Mr. Forneron, who has been living in that country for the last twenty-eight years. He went there a poor man, but to-day has over ten leagues of land and 20,000 head of cattle. He lives in Misiones, has a wife, fifteen children and forty-five grandchildren. He invited us in May to visit Paraguay. We spent two weeks at his "estancia," preaching the gospel for the first time to many people who had never heard it before. We baptized twenty-two children and married six couples. Mr. Forneros's mother, who is ninety-two years old, was glad to hear the gospel preached after twenty-eight years of living in that wild country. We saw the remains of two great Catholic churches which have been abandoned years ago. The images from these churches are scattered all over that section of the country, awaiting the building of new churches. No Protestant work of any kind is being carried on in that section of Paraguay.

We next visited the northern part of the republic, the famous

"Chaco," where we found a very important colony of Mennonites. I met one of the leading lawyers of Paraguay, who informed me that these good people had bought 300 leagues of valuable land in "El Chaco," that they were building good hotels, railroads, etc., and that they expect to bring about 40,000 colonists from Canada and Russia. Several thousands of them are already in Paraguay, and many more are on the way. It will be a great blessing to Paraguay. What we hope is that they will bring their religion along with them, and keep it, and not do as very often happens with Americans and English who come here, who seem to leave their religion at home.

Paraguay has so far been sadly neglected by the evangelical churches in general, and the coming of the Mennonites ought to help us all in spreading the gospel in this republic.

CHILE

Chile is a very difficult country to work in, from Buenos Aires. The distance is great, and the expensive trip across the Andes makes it almost impossible for us to visit the country as we would like. We have had two good men working in Chile during the year, and they report good sales. The sub-Agent there, Mr. Martinez, has charge of our bookroom in Santiago. It is centrally located, and through it we have been able to supply books in many languages.

At the last Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, held in Santiago, Chile, we were able to secure the services of Mr. L. Romero, a Methodist preacher, and we appointed him as traveling agent, to visit the evangelical churches and present before them our work. He has been very successful in his work and has been able to secure the cooperation of many churches and individuals who otherwise would not have heard of our work.

ARGENTINA

In many respects, Argentina is the greatest country in Latin America. We are receiving here the largest number of immigrants. As our sales will show, we are supplying people of many nations with the Word of God. But the amount of work we are able to do is small compared to the large number of people who come annually to our shores.

When we look over this wonderful field, with its many possibilities and opportunities, we are thrilled beyond expression; but when we consider the limited means at our disposal, we are depressed. Our greatest opportunity lies right here, at our doors, and we ought to be in a position to meet the demand.

The more we travel over this country, the more we are convinced that a very large proportion of its people sympathize with our work. The fact that Argentina contributes to our work every year more than all the rest of Latin America is a proof of what we have said.

Our bookroom here in Buenos Aires has been visited during the year by several Roman Catholic priests, who came to buy Bibles from us and at the same time express their good wishes for our work. Some time ago a very intelligent priest came and said to me: "I realize that my church has made a very serious mistake in keeping the Bible away from our people. I admire your Society for the work it is doing. May God bless you in your work, and may the day soon come when you shall be able to place the Bible in every home in our land." I am more and more impressed with the tremendous change that has taken place in this country during all these years; and it is partly due, no doubt, to the fact that the Bible has done its work well.

Secretary's Travels

The Secretary in charge has been kept very busy all year visiting the many churches scattered all over the field. Out of 365 days in the year, over 300 have been spent out on the field. I preached over 300 sermons; lectured on the work of our Society, traveled over Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay. The amount raised locally for the work, principally through the Secretary and the sub-Agent, is well over \$12,000 Argentine pesos. This places Argentina at the head of the Agencies as far as local contributions are concerned. It is our hope and aim to improve every year until we can have self support.

During the year the sub-Agent, Mr. Chaplin, together with Mrs. Chaplin, were granted a leave of absence of five months, which they spent principally in England. Mr. Chaplin returned greatly improved in health, and is doing splendid work. He is our linguist colporteur, being able to speak English, German, French, Dutch, and Spanish. His services are very valuable, specially with the better class of people.

Our Losses

During the year we lost two persons who for many years had been linked with Bible work in South America. On the first of June, my good mother, Mrs. F. G. Penzotti, was called to heaven. Ever since the death of my father, ten months before, she had been quite ill and was anxious to go and join him. Fortunately, I arrived from Paraguay the day before she left us, and was able to be with her to the last. She was always greatly interested in our work, having been closely identified with it in Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Central America.

A month ago we lost one of our old and faithful colporteurs, Mr. Henry Salles, a Swiss by birth, who had lived and married in the States. He was faithful to the end.

An Important Book

The La Plata Agency is very anxious to publish a history of my father's life, written by the Rev. Claudio Celada, of this city. Mr.

Celada was able to get all the necessary data from my father, a few months before his death, and the book is now ready for the press. It will have about three hundred pages of most interesting material. We believe that this book will be a great asset to our work in Latin America, and we are hoping that the Bible Society as well as some good and generous friends will come to our help now and make it possible for us to publish the book at once. The evangelical churches are waiting for the book, which will be used in the churches in order to arouse in young people an ardent desire to consecrate their lives to mission work. Mr. Celada is considered the best evangelical Spanish writer in these countries, and he has done his work admirably.

It may be interesting to add right here that the author of this book, the Rev. Celada, was a Roman Catholic priest in Porto Rico when I was pastor of a Methodist Church in Aibonito. One day I met him in the street and told him that we were praying for his conversion. He laughed at me and said I was wasting my time. He was taken sick a few days after, and left for Spain. When I came to Argentina, three years later, I found him preaching the gospel in a Methodist Church, and to-day he has finished writing the history of my father's life, which he calls his "life's work."

A Closing Word

It is impossible for us, in a brief report like this, to even try to tell our readers in the homeland what the Bible is doing for our country. But the more I visit this vast field, the more I am persuaded that the Bible has been the main agency in God's hands to enlighten South America. It has done more than anything else in changing the opinion of the thinking men and women of our land. People are buying the Book more than ever, and it is being studied even in many public schools as literature.

Just as we are writing this brief review of our work, all Latin America is stirred beyond expression on account of the attitude of the United States with regard to Mexico and specially Nicaragua. One of the arguments that the Roman Catholic Church uses against evangelical churches, as well as against our Society, is that we are paid agents of the American Government; that we are preparing the way for American invasion. This is naturally very hard on our work. We used to have the sign "American Bible Society" in front of our building, both in English and Spanish, but we have decided to do away with the word "American," calling our Society simply "Bible Society." We want our people to know that our book is not American, but *Universal*.

What Latin America needs just now is not soldiers and guns, but Bibles. We well understand that the churches in the States are not willing that soldiers shall be sent. May they increase their contributions and send us missionaries and the Word of God that giveth life eternal.

In the name of the evangelical churches that cooperate so generously with us, as well as our own, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Bible Society first, and then to the Christian people in North America, for their interest in our work and for their generosity in sending us the Bible. May God hasten the day when we shall be able to place the Holy Book in every home of our needy land.

BRAZIL

The Brazil Agency was established in 1876. The circulation, which is principally in the Portuguese language, was 147,101 volumes for the year 1926. This brings the total circulation since the organization of the Agency to 1,672,266 volumes of Scripture. A force of 6 colporteurs, 123 correspondents, and 17 volunteers shared in the work during 1926. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Hugh C. Tucker, D.D., Caixa do Correio 454, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



THREE Foreign Agencies were established in 1876,—Brazil, China, and Japan. Dr. Tucker, celebrating forty years continuous charge of the Brazil Agency, has fortunately elected not only to review the fifty years of the Brazil Agency, but also to give a brief résumé of the previous work in that great country since the earliest days of the Society. The report which follows falls easily into three parts: 1. A historic résumé of the years 1816 to 1876; 2. The fifty years of the Brazil Agency, 1876 to 1926; 3. The work of the year 1926.

Naturally this report is longer than usual, and naturally it is full of events and tales of interest and influence. Perhaps none is of more import than that the Agency has had the continuous direction and inspiration of Dr. Tucker, the doyen and honored leader of mission workers in Brazil. And his influence and service have extended far beyond the bounds of even that vast country. It may be disturbing to realize that, after so many years of Christian work in our sister continent, there are still great areas and many peoples unreached by the Christian message. But it is encouraging, in the report of recent years, and especially the last year, to read of work carried on in the vast reaches of the Amazon and its tributaries, which still afford unvisited fields for the colporteur as well as the explorer. Beautiful illustrations of the power of the Word come from distant, as well as near, fields. With persistent patience the Secretary reiterates his plea for a Bible House at Rio de Janeiro. And such a building would be a happy and fitting contri-

bution to the celebration of the jubilee of the Agency and the furtherance of the work in the years to come.

Historic Résumé—1816-1876

It is appropriate, as we come to write for the thirty-ninth time consecutively the annual report for this field, to call attention to the fact that the year 1926 marks the jubilee of the regularly established Brazilian Agency of the American Bible Society.

We may briefly recount a few incidents and facts relating to the Society's interest in, and connection with, this country during the period of sixty years from the date of organization to the time of setting up the Brazil Agency.

The "Centennial History of the American Bible Society," written by Dr. Henry Otis Dwight in 1916, contains valuable information relating to the interest and efforts of the Society to introduce the Scriptures into South America during the first sixty years of its history. These sixty years are easily divided into three periods of twenty years each so far as relates to Brazil.

1816-1836

Annual Reports and other publications of the Society furnish more in detail the facts and figures concerning the work in this country. From these it is clear that for the space of twenty years, from its organization in 1816 to the arrival of the first Protestant missionaries in 1836, the Society consigned copies of the Scriptures to foreign merchants residing on the coast of Brazil, which were judiciously distributed. It was stated shortly after the organization of the Society, that arguments were not necessary to set forth the duty of Americans to furnish the Bible to their neighbors of South America: "They have a claim on our liberality." The Society at once decided to undertake the work of supplying Scriptures to the inhabitants of these countries; and the first consignments were made in the year 1817. A special committee was organized for the purpose of establishing contact with merchants and captains of ships who might be interested to receive and distribute Scriptures. In a very short time correspondence was had with merchants in different ports, and a considerable number of Scriptures in this way entered Brazil.

1836-1856

The second period of twenty years, 1836-56, begins with the arrival and work of the first Protestant missionaries, Revs. Justin Spaulding and D. P. Kidder, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were supplied with Scriptures by the Bible Society and began at once the distribution. Their work made a profound impression, awakened great interest and provoked the talented priest Luiz Gonçalves dos

Santos, in 1838, to write in Portuguese a curious and rather amusing book entitled "The Catholic and the Methodist." The writer quotes from letters written by Mr. Kidder, in which he reported the sales of Bibles in Portuguese and Latin as having greatly increased.

The author has one paragraph headed "A Liberal Donation." It reads as follows:

Bible House, New York, March 9, 1838.

REV. NATHAN BANGS, D.D., Cor. Secy. of the
Board of Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Sir:—With this goes a box containing 75 Portuguese Bibles and 25 Testaments, a gift from the Directors of the American Bible Society for your missionaries in Brazil, etc.

JOSEPH HYDE,
General Agent American Bible Society.

Mr. Kidder reports:

"Copies exposed for sale and advertised in the newspapers found many purchasers, not only from the city but also from the distant provinces. At the mission house many copies were distributed gratuitously; and on several occasions there was what might be called a rush of applicants for the sacred volume. One of these occurred soon after my arrival. It was known that a supply of books had been received, and our house was literally thronged with persons of all ages and conditions of life, from the gray-headed man to the prattling child, from the gentleman in high life to the poor slave. Most of the children and servants came as messengers, bringing notes from their parents or masters. These notes were invariably couched in respectful, and often in beseeching, language. Several came from poor widows who had no money to buy books for their children, but who desired Testaments for them to read at school. Another was from one of the Ministers of the Imperial Government, asking for a supply for an entire school out of the city.

"Some instances of the happy and immediate effects of circulating the Bible came to our knowledge, but it is reserved for eternity to reveal the full extent of the benefit. While subsequently traveling in distant provinces, I found that the sacred volumes put in circulation at Rio de Janeiro had sometimes gone before me, and wherever they went an interest had been awakened which led the people to seek for more."

Mr. Kidder carried on the work until the death of his wife in 1842, when he returned to the States with an infant daughter.

Later in this period, 1854-56, the Rev. James C. Fletcher, an English gentleman, acted as Agent for the Society and traveled through several provinces of the Empire. In referring to Mr. Kidder's visit and work as first published by him, he writes:

"I visited São Paulo for the first time sixteen years after the events narrated above, and I found the same willingness manifested by all ranks of society in the reception of the Word which my companion in authorship experienced among the Paulistas, and I was thus enabled to diffuse very many copies of Holy Writ. From time

to time, in this pleasant portion of Brazil, I found much to encourage my labors among the humble and ignorant as well as among the more elevated and intelligent. It was not less pleasing occasionally to trace the working of the seed of truth sown so many years before by Dr. Kidder. I found that an eminent Brazilian had been won to wisdom's ways by the perusal of the Holy Bible and had become the earnest advocate of its circulation. Far in the interior of this province I met with two gentlemen who did not profess to be Christians, but who, as philanthropists, took a deep interest in the Bible cause. One of them told me that a Brazilian came to him a few days before with a Portuguese Bible, saying that he was "so rejoiced to have the Bible in his own vernacular." My informant thinks this must have come either from my predecessor or from the Bibles left at the house of an American merchant in Rio de Janeiro. I was also informed by an English watchmaker at Campinas that he had met with a Brazilian who had in his possession a Portuguese Bible, and that he took great pleasure in carrying it with him to the Roman Catholic church each Sunday."

1856-1876

The third period of twenty years, 1856-1876, marks the beginning of consecutive and sustained Protestant missionary work in this field. Mr. R. Nesbit was appointed Agent for the Society to the Amazon Valley in the year 1857, but died after about one year's work. The Rev. Mr. Holden, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, a missionary sent to Para, received and distributed Scriptures supplied by the Society. Dr. Roberto Kalley, of Scotland, the Rev. S. G. Simonton and A. L. Blackford sent out by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, and others entered the field, acquired the language and organized regular missionary work. This second missionary invasion made a deep impression and attracted attention both in the United States and England. Both the American and the British and Foreign Bible Societies became eager to attempt something more definite in what one of the Secretaries regarded as "a field of immense extent, which both Societies can but imperfectly supply."

Dr. Dwight, writing of this period, speaks of the Bible as making its appeal to all classes of the people and becoming an instructor in liberty: "It teaches men how to escape the bondage of their own evil habits, and to claim their rights as free and responsible men before God. In this way the Bible among the masses of the people slowly modifies national character. Missionaries going into Brazil found, in repeated instances, that the Scriptures sent out by the Society had prepared their way; and the missionaries vigorously taking hold of the work of Bible distribution, in turn prepared a way, as the work grew, for the appointment of permanent Agencies of the Society in different parts of the neighbor continent and its islands."

From time to time consignments of Scriptures were sent to

Brazil and distributed by the missionaries and their native helpers. Fruits of this seed sowing have been gathered through the years. The work, however, encountered its difficulties and had its discouragements.

Emperor Dom Pedro II Supports Religious Liberty

In the year 1868 a colporteur was arbitrarily arrested and forbidden by the chief of police and the president of the province of Sergipe to sell the Bibles and Testaments he carried, on the ground that they were contrary to the doctrine of the Apostolic Roman Catholic Church religion. The colporteur, aided by missionaries and friends, appealed to the Emperor of Brazil.

On May 4, 1868, His Imperial Majesty caused to be issued the following to the president of the province:

"There was presented to His Majesty the Emperor an appeal by Torquato Martins Cardozo (the colporteur) against the act of this presidency and of the chief of police of this province (Sergipe), who denied him the right of the sale of sacred books, because they were held to be contrary to the doctrines of the Apostolic Roman Catholic religion. And the August Emperor, having heard from the Department of the Council of Justice for the State, with whose decision he is in full accord, by his imperial and immediate resolution of the 22d ult., was pleased to inform your Excellency,

1. That it is the strict duty of that presidency to respect and to maintain the right of personal liberty guaranteed in Article 179, paragraphs 1, 5, and 24 of the Constitution;
2. That the chief of police cannot proceed against the reclaimant, except in cases expressed in Articles 277 and 278 of the Code, and then not arbitrarily, but by regular process;
3. That it is not lawful for a representative of the Imperial Government to affirm and sustain the purpose of proceeding arbitrarily in the case of deficiency in the laws of the country.

"This I communicate to you for your information and due execution."

The clauses of the Constitution referred to are:

"No one may be persecuted for cause of religion, so long as he respects that of the state, and does not offend against public morality.

"No kind of work, of culture, industry or commerce may be prohibited, so long as it is not opposed to public customs and to the safety of citizens."

The first article of the Civil Code cited forbids and establishes the penalty for abusing or making fun of worship, established in the Empire, by means of printed matter distributed by more than fifteen persons, or discourses delivered in public meetings or on occasions and in places of worship. The second forbids in the same terms the propagation of doctrines that directly destroy the fundamental truths of the existence of God and of the immortality of the soul.

The immediate effect of the publicity given to these imperial utterances was said to be very helpful to the cause of religious liberty and the circulation of the Scriptures. One can readily picture the scene and would like to have listened in as those judges of the Imperial Court of Justice sat around the table in that august tribunal, discussing the question raised, that the Bibles circulated by a colporteur of the Bible Society are contrary to the doctrines of the Apostolic Roman Catholic religion. I wonder if there is not some truth in the charge made by the president and chief of police, especially as regards some of the doctrines held by the Roman Catholic Church?

An Interesting Testimony

One of the missionaries, writing of two men whom he received into the church at this time, says: "One is an interesting testimony in favor of Bible distribution. Many years ago he was a sailor on a Brazilian man of war. I think, about 1846 or 1848, a dying comrade gave him a Portuguese Bible, of the New York edition, and strongly recommended him to read it, testifying to its blessed effects in his own case. The man kept the book and read it; and through years of wandering up and down in Africa, Europe, and North and South America, he traces the influence of that volume in bringing him at last to accept Jesus as his Saviour, and to consecrate himself to him. Two or three years after, he left the sea, and for nearly a year past has been a constant attendant at our services. Bread cast upon the waters is found after many days."

In 1872, it was stated that "it has been deemed expedient to suspend the work of colportage in this country on account of small sales." In 1873, we read, "There is no intention of relinquishing this important field of labor; even though the soil may be unproductive, it must be broken up and sown with the seed which God himself provides. For 1874 it is stated "that in Brazil a total circulation of 4,484 copies of the Scriptures has been effected during the year."

In 1876, a missionary wrote, "God is opening new places of usefulness all over Brazil. The visit of the Emperor Dom Pedro II to the United States will undoubtedly be of service to Christ's cause in the land of which he is the ruler."

Emperor Dom Pedro II on The Bible

This enlightened progressive leader once said:

"I love the Bible. I read it every day, and the more I read it, the more I love it. There are some people who do not like the Bible. I do not understand them. I cannot comprehend such persons; but I love the Bible; I love its simplicity, I love its repetitions and reiterations of the truth. As I said, I read it daily, and I like it more and more."

This brief survey of sixty years indicates something of the situa-

tion of early beginnings and of the spirit in which Brazilians received the Bible, which to them had been a sealed and forbidden book. The reading proved to many to be the power of God unto salvation. The missionaries saw clearly that the printed Word was an effective evangelizing agency and indispensable in their missionary work.

1876—THE BRAZIL AGENCY DEFINITELY ESTABLISHED

The period, 1876-1926, may be reviewed by decades, the first under others, and the other four under my supervision.

1876-1886

The first ten years may be characterized as the period of experimentation.

A Personal Reference

In the first place I ask pardon for a personal reference.

At the time of the Emperor's visit to the United States and just as the newly established Brazil Agency was getting started, I was having my first experience as a colporteur of the Bible Society, canvassing some of the counties in the eastern section of the state of Tennessee, with little knowledge, and less thought, of Brazil. The Rev. George S. Savage, of Covington, Kentucky, was Agent for Kentucky and middle eastern Tennessee. Reporting at that time he wrote, "The most important work has been the colportage work in middle and eastern Tennessee. It has been characterized by thoroughness and system." He then mentioned the counties canvassed, in 1,652 days of service, by 27 colporteurs, who visited 24,784 families, found 6,678 of them without a copy of the Scriptures, sold 5,825, and donated 6,391 copies. My participation in the work during summer vacation holidays at Vanderbilt University made an impression on mind and heart, that still abides; the experience has proven helpful in the work in Brazil through the years.

In the general review of the Society's operations in foreign countries for 1876 it is stated, "the Rev. A. L. Blackford has been appointed Agent of this Society for Brazil, where he has already spent many years as a missionary of the Presbyterian Board." He sailed from New York in December and immediately on his arrival in Brazil began organizing the work of colportage. During the year 1877 he traveled 3,300 miles, visited 32 cities and towns; the colporteurs traveled 6,500 miles and visited 134 places; the total sales for the year was 2,360 volumes, being 911 Bibles, 1,176 Testaments, and 273 portions.

Mr. Blackford wrote for the following year, "Things are beginning to look more encouraging in some respects"; and reported 3,845 copies distributed. He was much engrossed during the year 1879 with the revision and publication of Almeida's version of the New Testament. The distribution amounted to 5,974 copies. He was

responsible for the work of the Agency until the arrival of the Rev. Wm. M. Brown, who sailed from New York June 5th and took charge July 1, 1880.

Mr. Brown reported for 1882 a circulation of 6,484 copies, and for 1883, 8,994 copies, and wrote "by the blessing of Him whose work it surely is, there has been an encouraging increase in the circulation of the Scriptures throughout the provinces of Brazil." At the same time he reports instances of persecution and burning of Bibles. In 1884, he says, "The discouragements, which are always numerous enough, have been more than balanced by the encouragements." For 1885 he writes of the diminishing influence of the priestly power throughout the Empire, and of continued efforts to counteract Protestantism and to hinder the circulation of the Scriptures. The following paragraphs from Mr. Brown's report for 1886 are of interest:

"One event that is to have its effect upon both mission and Bible work was the visit of the Emperor to the province of São Paulo in the latter part of the year. In visiting schools he made it a point to examine the scholars in the catechism. This was probably unexpected, as in a former tour of the same province, eight years ago, the sentiment was emphatically expressed that religious instruction should be left to the parents and priests. On this recent trip several of the teachers were reprimanded for not giving attention to religion. In Piracicaba the Emperor stated that energetic measures should be taken to react against the Protestant propaganda. Very broad interpretations can be put upon this, and already it is proving to be sufficient authority to warrant a disregard of the Constitution, which guarantees religious toleration. His Majesty attempted to be both severe and witty when he found in the common council chamber of one town what he termed a 'Protestant Bible.' It had the imprint of the American Bible Society.

"The working force was reduced by the departure for Portugal of one colporteur, the death of another, and the resignation of three others, who from various reasons, found it impossible to continue in the service.

"Nothing definite has as yet been determined upon in regard to a new version of the Portuguese Scriptures. There has been a good deal of correspondence and desultory talk, but nothing very practicable has been brought forward, either by way of a revision or of a new version. All who are in any way interested are certain enough of the need; but how to overcome all the difficulties attendant upon such an undertaking has not yet been discovered."

Mr. Brown resigned shortly after writing this report. The first decade closed evidently amid discouragements and with the Agency vacant.

The Second Decade—1886-1896

The second decade may be characterized as one of survey and

planning. I entered upon the duties of the Agency September 7, 1887, Brazil's national independence day; the office was at No. 79 Seventh Street; a good day and a good place to make a beginning.

Belief was expressed in the possibility of increasing the number of Scriptures being sold, especially if a revision or a new version of the Bible could be had which the missionaries would use and recommend to the people. The first steps were to take charge of the office and deposit, get in touch with the few colporteurs at work, and to open correspondence with missionaries. Dr. Edward W. Gilman, the General Secretary, wrote that he had no special instructions to give or information to offer. Brazil was a great field; great in area, great in need, great in difficulties to be faced, and great in promise. A survey was begun by railroad, muleback and on-foot journeys to the interior. One trip of fifteen hundred miles in a canoe, requiring fifty-two days, was made. Personal acquaintance with men, knowledge of the people and the country, and of ways and means of communication, were acquired. The Agent was absent from headquarters thirty-four weeks of the first year, and traveled 8,418 miles. More than 8,000 copies of Scriptures were distributed. Thus a fair beginning was made in the first twelve months of this period.

Remarkable Changes

The years 1888 and 1889 will ever be memorable in the history of Brazil for the remarkable changes that took place in the social, political, economic, and religious institutions and life of the country. Slavery was abolished by imperial decree, the monarchy was overthrown, the imperial family banished to Europe; complete separation between church and state, civil marriage, the secularization of cemeteries, lay teaching in all public and government schools, were decreed by the Provisional Government; a new Constitution was adopted, and all the machinery of a republican form of government was set in motion.

The effects of these sweeping changes were profound and far-reaching. A larger degree of liberty and freedom of thought followed. The way for Bible distribution was made easier, and without any increase in expenditure the number of copies circulated increased from year to year. The decade began with an output of about 6,000 copies and ended with an output of 31,276 copies for the year. Toward the close of the decade the opening of a salesroom with a large show-window on a much-frequented street in the center of the capital of the Republic attracted attention, served to advertise the Bible, and gave a fresh impetus to the work.

An Improved Revision

Mention was made of an attempt at a revision of the New Testament by Dr. Blackford and his associates in Brazil during the first

decade of the period under review. The results were not at all satisfactory. The second decade witnessed a more thorough and complete revision of Almeida's version of the Bible. The work was done in Portugal, and the British and Foreign Bible Society published the first edition. Later the American Bible Society made plates of this revision from which they are still publishing. This was the fourth attempt made to revise this antiquated version and to secure for the present Portuguese-speaking generation a translation of the sacred text into the common speech of a non-Bible-reading people. Commenting on the subject when the work appeared, we wrote:

"I am very confident that, if once we can get an edition which will be used by the churches, our work will have the liberal and hearty support of all. This great need must be kept prominently to the front, until we secure just what we want in this line. Just as soon as we can have a favorable and satisfactory expression of opinion from competent scholars, showing that this new revision is acceptable, the Society ought to secure the privilege of printing it in place of the old version, in the various styles and sizes demanded for our work in this country."

The following paragraph from the report of 1894 is of historic interest:

"Just before the inauguration of the present President of the republic, the first to be elected by popular vote, he was asked by a friend if a Bible would be an acceptable present on the occasion. He replied that it would be very much appreciated. I was asked as Agent of the American Bible Society to make him a present of one. I did so, with his name in gilt letters stamped on the back, and the date of his inauguration on the flyleaf. I received a reply written and signed by himself. The following is an exact translation of the same: 'To Mr. H. C. Tucker, Agent of the American Bible Society: I thank you for the beautiful volume of the sacred Bible which you had the good will to offer me. Prudente Moraes.' So our Bibles are to be found in the houses of all classes, from the palace of the President to the hovel of the poor."

In this period the first Y. M. C. A. for Brazil was organized and carried on its work for some time in the office of the Bible Society. The lighting at night was by a kerosene lamp, and most of the seats for the young men were boxes in which the Scriptures were received.

The Third Decade—1896-1906

The third decade, 1896-1906, was a time of building on foundations already laid and developing the work along new lines.

With the improved text of Almeida's version in hand, missionaries, native preachers, and others began to take a large interest in the work, and a considerable number of correspondents were in this way secured. Large numbers of European immigrants were brought out

to substitute slave labor on the coffee plantations and to meet other demands in the new order of industrial and economic expansion; these constituted a new, needy, and promising field for Bible work. The circulation of Scriptures amounted to 40,195 copies in the first year of this decade.

For health reasons the Agent was absent from the field for several months; the number of colporteurs was diminished, and there was a decrease in the sales for a time. One of the Secretaries wrote, "Brazil as a field for Bible distribution becomes more and more attractive every year. Its immense area adds to the difficulties of travel, but perhaps there is no country in the world from which there comes such a wealth of testimony to the power of the printed Bible circulated in advance of the preacher of the gospel." Numbers of interesting incidents were reported, showing the power of the written Word to enlighten, convince and lead men to Christ; some of these appeared in the *Bible Society Record*.

The Gospel of John, in Braille for the blind, was printed in Portuguese at a Federal Government institution. This was the first time, so far as I know, that one of the Gospels had appeared in Portuguese for the blind. The highest figure of copies circulated in one year during this decade was 70,013. The Bible began to attract attention as never before in the history of the country. There was an increasing demand for a more thorough revision of Almeida's version or for a new translation.

Cooperation

Observation and experience led to the conviction that definite cooperation between the Agencies of the two Bible Societies at work in this field was highly desirable. The Agency of the American Society drew up a plan, which, on the occasion of his visit to London as a delegate to the Methodist Ecumenical Conference, was discussed with representatives of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The plan was accepted by their Agent in Brazil and went into effect July, 1904. The General Secretary wrote, "The division has not been by an arbitrary line bisecting the geographical area, but with regard to the population, topography, traveling facilities, and other important factors involved in a problem so delicate."

The need of a more acceptable version was also discussed at London, and a few weeks later at headquarters in New York. The American Bible Society took the first step, and the work was begun by a small committee selected by the Brazil Agent. Cooperation in this feature of the work was also most desirable. A plan was proposed and accepted whereby the two Societies would share equally in the responsibility. The work of a new translation was well under way at the close of the decade 1906.

A Roman Catholic Revision

Considerable publicity was given to the work, and to the increasing circulation and reading of the Scriptures. Opposition, denunciation, persecution, Bible-burning and threats of excommunication failed to stop the movement. Our opponents realized that some other measure must be adopted to offset the work of the Bible Societies. Roman Catholic authorities gave permission for several attempts to revise and issue Figueiredo's translation of the Gospels from the Latin Vulgate; one covered the entire New Testament. The Franciscan monks at Bahia published in their preface to this New Testament:

"It being proper to make the acquisition of the Sacred Scriptures and the exact and complete knowledge of their texts easy to the Brazilian Catholics, and in order to provide against the false and mutilated Bibles that the Protestant sects are scattering so profusely in the country, with the permission and approval of the Most Excellent and Most Reverend Lord, Metropolitan Archbishop and Primate, and with the approval of all the Most Reverend Bishops who were present at the First Brazilian Catholic Congress, we undertake to reedit the Sacred Bible in the vernacular tongue, making use of existing versions as far as they sustain faithfulness and clearness, and adding explanatory notes, abridged from the Holy Fathers and Bible studies of eminent theologians, ancient and modern."

A Priest on Bible Reading

Another revision made by an eminent priest in São Paulo appeared also. One of his colleagues wrote: "Certainly there is no reading more profitable for pious souls than that of the Gospels. This reading nourishes the spirit and heart. The hour is providential. The emissaries of the Bible Societies are multiplying among us, distributing the Scriptures in the vernacular language with evident alterations. It is necessary to cause to be read the Divine Word in all its purity, guarded with all precautions."

The author in his introduction says:

"Some think, even among the Catholics, that the Holy Catholic Church forbids to the faithful the reading of the Gospels. This is an error slanderously circulated by Protestantism against which it is necessary to react. Protestantism teaches that all the truths of faith are to be found in the Sacred Scriptures, and that we all have the right of interpreting them, according to the light of the Holy Spirit. While combating this dangerous and deadly doctrine, prolific mother of innumerable extravagant sects contradicting themselves, the church does not purpose depriving us of the Bible, always, on the other hand, considered as a luminous and most abundant fountain of divine revelation. On the contrary, not only does the church recommend, with importunity, the reading of the sacred books, but

moreover grants many indulgences to all those who at least for a quarter of an hour read a passage of the Gospels."

In a circular letter advertising this work he writes: "For a long time, it must be admitted, the Gospel was for the Catholics a closed book, an unknown book, and for this reason the God of the Gospel is becoming an unknown God. Even among pious persons, among those who most closely seek to follow Jesus Christ, there are very few who read the Gospel."

The Cardinal Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro, authorizing and recommending a third revision, addressed a letter to his clergy in which he said:

"Various Lord Bishops, inflamed with apostolic zeal, in learned pastorals and pious commandments, with urgency recommend to the faithful, to families, to men of all social grades, the devout and wholesome practice of reading the Holy Gospels. This movement is a real inspiration, which, stimulated by the blessings and encouragement of the August and Magnanimous Leo XIII, goes on increasing marvelously, making splendid and numerous conquests.

"In my humble opinion it is difficult to better combine a simple style and good taste with a literal fidelity to the sacred text, which need is noted and deplored by many in the few translations known up to the present day.

"At the moment in which we write these words of approval and apology of the work of popularizing the reading of the Holy Gospels, we judge it convenient to make them very clear, that this our attitude can never be confounded with the propaganda that our separated brethren, the Protestants, are very actively making. No; they, faithful to their principles, wish to substitute the Gospels for the church; they claim to find directly and exclusively in the Gospels the dogma of faith and the rules of living."

These utterances attracted attention, greatly encouraged the Bible Agents and Christian workers, and served to indicate how far-reaching the influence of the Bible work was and to emphasize the recognized need of an adequate version in the Portuguese language.

A Prominent Brazilian on Bible Reading

At the time these publications appeared, a prominent Brazilian writer, in an article entitled "What Our Forefathers Read," says the Portuguese, as all Catholic people, read very little, and adds:

"If the French, notwithstanding they are Catholic, yet read considerably, it is due not only to the direct inheritance of Latin culture and the Renaissance, but to the influence of Calvinism, very strong there in the sixteenth century, and also to the spirit of Gallican independence. For there can be no doubt that the Reformation, by the obligation imposed upon the faithful to read the Bible, to which Latin Catholicism was always hostile, created in modern Europe the habit

of reading; and this explains why the Protestant nations have much more this habit than the Catholic. To learn to read is to the Protestant a religious necessity; for his religious culture depends almost exclusively on the reading of the Bible. For the Catholic it is unnecessary, as the oral lesson suffices for his religious edification, even though given in a language he does not understand."

In a few well-written paragraphs the writer attributes Brazil's backwardness in education to the Jesuits and Catholicism in general. In a later article he says: "The real causes why we read so little are those given in my previous article—the influence of Catholicism, after the Reformation, hostile to reading and distrustful of books."

A traveler, interested in the Bible work, after visiting Brazil at this time, wrote:

"From missionaries of various denominations I received striking testimonies to the value of the work of Bible distribution in that land. Many churches, now vigorous and growing, trace their origin to a single copy of the Scriptures carried far beyond the range of the missionary, and making for itself a lodging in some believing heart. The committee charged with the task of preparing a new version of the Scriptures have begun their work with great enthusiasm, and the fruit of their labors will soon begin to appear. You certainly have great reason for rejoicing in the work which your Society is doing under the Southern Cross. The Bible in Brazil is good seed falling upon good ground and bringing forth fruit abundantly."

Faithful Colporteurs

It is always a pleasure to pay highest tribute to the faithful colporteurs whose work we are reviewing. It was in this decade that I had occasion to speak specially of one who for years had suffered persecutions, endured hardships, and toiled unceasingly and successfully. I wrote:

"The last time he attempted to go into the streets with his usual parcel of books was one very hot morning in the month of August. He had gone but a short distance when, from weakness, he was overcome with the heat, and it was with great difficulty that he made his way back to his humble rooms, which he had occupied for several years in the rear of my residence. He said with tears rolling down his furrowed cheeks: 'I can't go any more.' That was a pathetic scene which took place just outside the gates of the Eternal City, and one at which the Master himself was present. He lingered with us until November, and then quietly breathing his last, went up to be forever with his Lord."

At the same time one of his companions, in the service for twenty-five years, reviewing the work of a quarter of century wrote:

"In the beginning of this period of twenty-five years, when a man bought a Bible it was for his own private use; he would hide it;

it was considered as a sealed and forbidden book to the people. Now, when a man buys one, it is not only for his private investigation, but he offers it to his neighbors, and it is a book for all the people. At that time when one bought a Bible, if he did not wish to keep and read it, he would destroy it; now he will pass it on to some one else. At that time many would not even accept a Bible as a present; now they even seek for the colporteur and ask for Bibles. Then men, when they bought Bibles, would take them to the priests to know if they were good books; now they buy and say to the priests that it is the best book in the world and very cheap. Then the people looked upon the Bible-seller with disdain, as one who deceived them; now they seek him to hear some good news. Then they would do all they could to make him hurry away from their homes; now they are glad to have him come in and rest and talk to them about the Scriptures. Then the school children would cry out to the colporteur in the streets, 'Go and sell your Bibles to the dogs'; now they run after him to buy New Testaments to read and to carry as presents to their teachers and others."

The Fourth Decade—1906-1916

The fourth decade 1906-1916 may be characterized as one of sustained effort and enlarging connections.

The work of the translation committee was steadily and successfully pursued. In the year 1910 the entire New Testament was published, and the manuscript of the Old Testament was forwarded in 1914. The work met with favorable acceptance from the beginning and is growing in favor. The yearly circulation at one time during this decade reached 70,549 copies.

Federal and State Governments and private individuals were in various ways promoting industrial and commercial expansion and development. It was also an era of the awakening of the social conscience. Health, hygiene, and social conditions began to receive attention as never before among Brazilians.

Assisting Other Good Movements

If space permitted, the writer could mention more in detail his personal initiative in connection with the eradication of yellow fever from the city of Rio de Janeiro, movements to combat tuberculosis, venereal diseases and small-pox, the promotion of nurse training, the medical inspection of school children, the care of their teeth and the problem of undernourishment; establishing the first modern playground for children in Brazil; and organizations to deal with the problem of illiteracy, community social surveys, etc.

To a considerable degree these new movements grew out of, or hinged about, the active circulation of the Scriptures and efforts to interest people in the reading and study of the Bible. I sometimes ask

myself which was the more thrillingly interesting to me, this or the preceding decade.

Roman Catholic authorities and leaders pursued plans of reorganization and adjustment to the new and improved civil, social, and material orders. New bishoprics were created; large numbers of foreign monks, priests and sisters came into the country to hold missions, visit from house to house, awaken and win families to the church, promote public church festivities and processions, and arouse the people to attend confession and the mass. The incidents related in the review of the previous decade served to focus the religious movement and discussions between Catholics and Protestants about the written Word of God.

Women for the first time came out openly, took an active part and were regularly employed in the work of Scripture distribution and Bible reading from house to house. An increasing ease of access to the people was observed. Willingness to hear, eagerness to buy, and a desire to read and to know more about the Bible characterized the spirit and attitude of an increasing number of persons in all sections of the country. At the same time, instances of Bible burning were reported in this decade as in the last, when on a certain occasion a priest published his *audo-da-fé*, which was telegraphed all over the country, and burned 26 Bibles, 42 New Testaments and 49 portions of the Scriptures. He did this under ecclesiastical authorization.

Colporteurs continued their systematic work about the cities and towns, and a number of notable long journeys were made into regions never before visited by representatives of the Bible Society or mission boards.

At the World Sunday-school Convention at Washington, D. C., 1910, and again at Zurich, Switzerland, 1913, the Agent had occasion to discuss the Bible work and the needs of the field in relation to Sunday schools. Interest was awakened and attention was drawn to the work in Brazil to a very gratifying degree. A bishop of the church of England well expressed the appeal in the following words:

The Needs of South America

"The needs of South America, how great and pathetic they are! The world's empty continent, the hope of the future, the home to be of millions of Europeans, who are already beginning to flow there in a steady stream, it is without true religion and does not realize its danger! The form of faith prevalent is the weakest and most corrupt known. South America needs true religion, viz.: Reformed, Scriptural Apostolic Christianity. Our own people need it, that they may be saved from only too possible degradation. The Spanish and Portuguese-speaking people need it, that they may develop into the strong, free nations they desire to be. The aboriginal races of Indians need it, that they may be saved from extinction and find their place, too, in the kingdom of God."

A clause in one of the findings of the convention reads:

"There is no greater missionary agency in Latin America than the Bible, and no greater need than the circulation and study of it. We should give our help to all the agencies which are promoting the publication and distribution of the Scriptures in Latin America."

The Brazil Sunday-school Union was organized, and its activities were directed from the Rio office of the Bible Society for ten years. The work grew to proportions demanding the entire time of one man, and the World Sunday-school Association sent out a man to take charge.

The Agent was delegated to attend the World Missionary Conference at Edinburg, 1910, and was advised that the work of his field could not be discussed in that gathering, as only missions to non-Christian countries would be considered. When a bird's-eye view of the various world fields were being given in the kaleidoscopic fashion of five-minute talks, the heart ached to say just a word about the needs of Brazil. The thought of the untouched millions of Indians in the forests of the interior of South America flashed through the anxious mind. Permission was asked and granted to say a word about this great non-Christian area and these non-Christian red brothers of the forests. Personal observation and contact with tribes in Brazil made it clear that there was no darker, more unknown and more neglected spot on earth mentioned before that Conference, than the interior of this great continent.

A Truthful Three-minute Speech

That three-minute speech led to the formation of a special committee, whose work resulted in the Panama Congress on Christian Work in Latin America, the setting up of the Committee on Cooperation, with regional committees in various sections. The Brazilian Committee was organized, and these activities were directed from the Rio office of the American Bible Society for six years. The movement developed and called for the entire time of one man; the present executive secretary, an admirably equipped Brazilian, was chosen for the place.

These facts are here recorded that readers may be able to appreciate more fully on this jubilee occasion the scope and influence of the efforts and activities to be credited to the Brazil Agency of the American Bible Society.

The very successful and advantageous cooperation being practically carried on between the Agencies of the two Bible Societies in Brazil, the American and British, had an encouraging and stimulating effect on the thought and purpose of those who have been seeking the coordination and drawing together of Christian forces at work to establish and extend the kingdom of Christ in the earth. A World Sunday-school Convention report says: "We have already noticed

the influence of the Bible Societies in promoting cooperation on the mission field. They have had a similar influence toward unity and joint action upon the church at home."

The Brazil Agency made its contribution of information, striking incidents and reports of results to the literature of the Society so widely distributed during the Centennial year of 1916 with which this decade closed. The Agent traveled 40,000 miles during the year through North and South America and participated in the Centennial celebrations, besides the Panama Congress and several regional conferences.

The Fifth Decade—1916-1926

The fifth decade is characterized by increasing demands, diminishing supplies, regaining ground and making advances.

The report for the first year of the decade began with this appeal: "On returning to Brazil from a year's work and travel in interests of the Bible Society's Centennial celebrations, the first voice heard on the coast was a plea for larger supplies of Scriptures. The demands have increased with the passing months. A number of our correspondents and their helpers have asked for larger supplies because of the evident awakening interest and readiness with which they can sell the Scriptures." This voice is a characteristic of the decade.

Conditions were such for a time that shipments could not be made. The day we sailed from New York the step was taken that led the States to definitely enter the world war. The shipping conditions that followed made it impossible to get supplies of Scriptures for Brazil to meet these larger demands. The General Secretary reported: "Month after month cases of Scriptures ready to go forward to Rio de Janeiro were refused at the port of New York, owing to the congestion of freight and the infrequent sailings."

The publicity given through the Brazilian press to the large distribution of khaki New Testaments among the forces in the world war by the Bible Societies and others supplying Scriptures to the men of the armies and navies and to prisoners and men in camps, served to call attention to the Word of God and to awaken interest in the Bible. The Brazil Agency cooperated in supplying New Testaments to Brazil's naval contingent that was sent across to European waters.

Serious Curtailment and New Openings

A reduction in the annual appropriation, difficulties and deficiencies in obtaining supplies continued for some time. One year the circulation dropped to 19,602 copies; and the number received from the Bible House was even less. However, as the economic order tended to become normal again and shipping facilities improved, larger supplies of Scriptures were available, distribution increased, and new fields were entered. The reports from the Agency tell of long journeys on horseback, on foot and in canoes made by colporteurs and

correspondents to reach neglected areas and to visit Indian tribes. The condition of the red men of the forest was the occasion, at the Edinburg Conference, of directing attention to South America. This fact has added emphasis to the responsibility of reaching them with the gospel. The Brazil Agency has sought to bear its share of the obligation and to interest Christian men and women in this great problem. One of the workers made a journey of more than 2,000 miles by canoe to investigate conditions and to induce mission committees to enter the field. Several stations have been opened and plans are being developed for an extension of the work.

The 50,000 Japanese, 20,000 Moslems, and various other groups scattered through the territory are receiving special attention. The Agency has made reports of these needs from time to time, hoping to spread information, awaken interest, and lead to plans and efforts for the evangelization of all these different elements.

Brazil's Centennial

On the occasion of Brazil's Centennial Exposition, celebrating the one hundredth year of her independence, the Agency took advantage of the opportunity and made special effort to call attention to the Bible and to the work of the Society. The visit to Rio of one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, Hon. Charles E. Hughes, LL.D., added interest to the occasion and contributed to the furtherance of the Bible cause. The Agency Secretary called on Mr. Hughes, met him several times, directed a public service on Sunday in which he participated, and received a note expressing appreciation of the courtesies extended and good wishes for the success of the work.

It was thought fitting that the Bible Society should participate in the commemoration in some appropriate manner. At the request of the Agency Secretary the American Bible Society authorized the issuing of 12,000 New Testaments with the inscription in Portuguese "In Commemoration of the Centenary of the Independence of Brazil, 1822-1922," and the national flag on the covers. The Board of Managers likewise authorized a grant of 10,000 Gospels with the same designs for free distribution, and an additional 4,000 Gospels came for sale.

The Secretary prepared in Portuguese, and had printed, the following: 25,000 copies of "A Brief History of the Origin and World-wide Work of the American Bible Society"; 25,000 "The Bible in Brazil during the Century"; 50,000 "The Importance of the Reading of the Bible—the Opinions of Noted Men"; 10,000 "How to Use the Bible"; and 12,500 "The Only Way Out of the Dark." The Bible House in New York supplied in English 500 "Specimen Verses" of the principal languages into which the Scriptures have been translated, and 5,000 "John 3:16—A Few Specimen Verses of 770 Lan-

guages"; and we had on hand still for distribution 1,000 copies of the Centennial pamphlet, "The Bible in Brazil," by the Agency Secretary. The circulation of this literature, amounting to 2,407,500 pages, together with the 12,000 New Testaments and 14,000 Gospels, made a profound impression and awakened great interest everywhere.

Other publications were made during the decade that have greatly influenced the work. "The Book and the Telephone," the *Christian Herald's* thrilling account of how Mr. Calvin Coolidge was advised of President Harding's death and took the oath of office, was published in Portuguese and widely circulated; thousands have read it with interest, and it is still in demand.

Dr. José Carlos Rodrigues, the distinguished editor and successful business man, was for twenty-five years a most helpful friend to the Bible work; and his monumental two-volume work in Portuguese on the Old Testament has greatly contributed to the study of the Book.

The records show an accumulation of incidents gathered through this decade illustrating the power of the written Word.

The plan of division of territory between the two Societies, the British and the American, has continued to work well and is making all the time a valuable contribution to the increasing good-fellowship between the various denominations and evangelical agencies at work in Brazil. The free interchange of books, efforts to avoid duplications in styles of printing, and work together in preparing editions of the new Brazilian version of the Bible are facts of economy and harmony in cooperation.

The increase in the circulation during the decade was from 58,666 to 147,061 copies.

The Agency Secretary enjoyed a few months' furlough in the States for a second time in this decade, rendered service at the Bible House, and to the cause in travels through the East, middle West and South, participated in the Foreign Missions Convention at Washington and the Congress on Christian Work at Montevideo and subsequent meetings in Argentina and Chile.

Comparisons

At the beginning of the period under review the population of Brazil was about 12,000,000. The Agencies of the American and of the British and Foreign Bible Society distributed annually among Brazilians about 20,000 copies, or a copy to one in every 600 of the population. If we estimate seven persons to the household, this would give a copy to about one family in every 85.

At the close of the period the population is 35,000,000 and the Bible Societies are distributing among them 250,000 copies annually, or a copy to one in every 140 of the population, or a copy to one family in every 20. The population has increased two and one-half times in fifty years, while the circulation of the Scriptures has in-

creased twelve and one-half times during the same period of half a century.

It is estimated that 25 per cent of the population of Brazil, or 8,750,000 persons, can read; this would give a copy annually to one in 35 of those who are able to read it.

The Bible Societies have caused to be distributed in Brazil about 3,500,000 copies of the Scriptures from the earliest days until the close of the year 1926, or one for every ten persons of the present population, or one for two and one-half of those able to read. If not a single copy had been burned or destroyed, lost or worn out, and there were only one in a household, there would still be 1,500,000 families without any portion of the Bible. If we estimate a copy to the individual, there would remain without the Scriptures 5,250,000 of those who can read; and there are 26,500,000 who are yet waiting to be taught.

Perhaps only about a fourth of the number of Scriptures distributed are of the entire Bible; this would give less than 1,000,000 copies of the complete Bible that have been placed in the hands of the people. We do not know the average life of a Bible under conditions that obtain in this country; but, in view of the long period of time in which the work has been going on, the fact that we know many copies have been burned or otherwise destroyed, and that Bibles like other books wear out, we may safely estimate that there are today in existence in Brazil three or four hundred thousand copies; there may be double that number of separate New Testaments.

It would be interesting to know how many copies are being read and studied daily. We do know that the numbers are increasing of those who accept it as God's revelation to man. The Protestant Christian communicants in Brazil now number about one hundred thousand, and there are enrolled in Sunday schools more than eighty thousand. This body of evangelical Christians has been built up chiefly within the fifty years of Bible work under review. It constitutes an intelligent Bible-reading, vigorous group, that is exercising an economic, intellectual, moral and religious influence upon the life of the country far out of proportion to its numbers when compared with others.

The Outstanding Problem

The most outstanding problem that the Agency has to deal with in closing its fiftieth anniversary and facing the future is how to meet the increasing demands for Scriptures in the growing Christian communities and at the same time pursue the pioneer work and press on into regions still where there are no Bibles. The churches, Sunday schools, and Bible readers are consuming a rapidly increasing proportion of the supply the Agency is able to furnish, and the number of copies for those in the dark regions beyond grows less.

Repeated appeals have been made for a Bible House at Rio de

Janeiro, the capital city of the Republic. More than once there were reasons to hope that the desire might be realized. This jubilee of the Brazil Agency furnishes an appropriate occasion to erect a monument in the form of this Bible House to commemorate the event. Why not make this the goal for 1927?

THE REPORT FOR 1926

My thirty-ninth consecutive annual report for the Brazil Agency follows in a general way the form of others that have been issued in recent years. The work of distribution has been carried on as before by colporteurs, correspondents, and the central office force. The number of persons participating in the service may be classified as follows: regular colporteurs under the Agency Secretary's direction, 5; correspondents who receive, for themselves or for employed workers under their direction, small rebates as compensation for colportage, 122; voluntary workers who ask no special abatements, 17; sub-Agents who employ a number of colporteurs and devote all time to the work, 1; office force, — the Agency Secretary, one assistant, a stenographer, and the storeman; the telephone girl and janitor who also serve the building occupied by other offices — making a total of 151 persons giving full and part time to the work, to whom may be added thirty or forty more in connection with our correspondents and with whom the Agency Secretary does not come into personal contact.

Our Colporteurs

Joaquim G. Ferreira, living at Curitiba, the capital of Parana, has carried on work in the city and made a number of journeys on horseback and by train through the surrounding country.

Jose Cazzulino Giuseppe still resides in the rapidly advancing city of São Paulo. His labors have been confined almost entirely to that populous center.

João da Cruz has worked in the suburbs of the capital city Rio de Janeiro, and made several trips by railroad and on foot into country districts.

Manoel Canuto Alves residing at Recife, Pernambuco, the most important and populous center in that region of the north, has extended his labors as usual by journeys through the surrounding country and to the interior.

Abel P. C. Branco for health reasons moved from the capital of the state of Ceara to a small town in a populous and healthy interior section. Later in the year his sickness was pronounced leprosy by well-qualified physicians. There is no provision in that region for segregation or isolation of lepers. One of his brothers and a boy employed are helping him to sell the stock of Scriptures on hand.

Working on Suburban Trains

A few extracts from letters and reports will indicate something of

the nature and importance of the work of these regular colporteurs. An interesting communication was sent in during the year entitled "Distributing Scriptures on Suburban Trains." The colporteur wrote: "On February 8 I began a new system of work, which God has richly blessed. Studying the psychology, heart and sentiment of our people, I would take a copy of the Gospel of John, which has four pictures of places in Jerusalem, show it to the people, and explain what it is. Perhaps my report may appear at first sight fantastic. I spoke to from 1,000 to 2,000 persons a day at least. I dedicated my time to the work on these trains for some days. I worked only among the second class. I calculated that each car was as a house visited; at times there were as many as 150 persons in one car and standing on the platforms; at other times there would be only 30 or 50. I would sometimes stand on the crowded platforms and preach the gospel to all in the car and explain to them the contents of the little book, and that one could be bought for one or two cents. In a few days I sold 3,779 copies of the Gospels and gave away 307 copies, making a total of 4,086.

"One afternoon I met in a crowded car a family of believers; one son is a student for the ministry, and the mother showed me a Bible she had in hand. The son gave his testimony before the crowd, and many were persuaded to buy copies of the Gospels." Later he wrote: "At one station where I stopped I gave eight New Testaments to prisoners in a jail. There were several Christian believers in the place who volunteered to pay for the Testaments, that in this way they might help the Bible Society. I visited all the houses in the place and sold several copies of the Scriptures. I then spent several days in visiting other places. This month I have returned to continue the work on the suburban trains. I have sold in these few days 2,168 copies more Gospels. The diabolical carnival interrupted the work for a few days. I am sorry not to have more of the Gospels with the pictures in them."

Traveling Five Leagues to Hear the Gospel

At another time he reported: "One man traveled five leagues, with five children, to hear the Gospel and to buy a New Testament. In going from one village to another I called at a little country house. The man told me that he once bought a New Testament, but the priest said it was false, and he burned it up. I explained to him that there is but one New Testament and read passages. He bought a copy and said he would continue to read it. I then went to Barra Alegre, three or four leagues away, and there spoke to 300 persons and sold copies of the Scriptures; among those present in the audience were the public school teacher, the chief of police, and other prominent people. The chief of police said he had been an atheist, but was now deeply impressed, wished me to return soon and to

make his house my home; that he wishes his children to know the Bible and to be taught the religion of Jesus. I visited a number of country houses and several villages, speaking at times to from seventy to over one hundred persons and sold copies of the Scriptures everywhere. At Friburgo I did not preach, but sold 180 copies of the Scriptures. Sales during the month were 33 Bibles, 49 New Testaments, and 1,022 Gospels."

A correspondent wrote of colporteurs as pioneers, relating interesting incidents from the great Amazon River Valley region, and said of one place: "House by house and street by street they canvassed the little town of about four hundred houses, and in less than four days, working only a few hours a day on account of the great heat, they were enabled to sell no less than 54 Bibles, 60 Testaments, and 107 Gospels, besides a good number of 'Traveler's Guides'; also making a free distribution of Gospels among the prisoners and other needy folk. Some of the inhabitants openly expressed their disgust with the lives of their priests; while many declared that they hoped that a gospel work might be established in their midst.

Striking Results

"Speaking of the Amazon recalls an interesting fact relating to our sailor colporteur, Antão Pessoa. He was converted near the very notorious Putumayo region on one of our former trips. Unfortunately I was compelled to leave him a few days later. Left alone in that remote region, shut in by the dark mysterious Amazon forest, he began to study the Bible, reading aloud as was his custom, and succeeded in arousing the envy of some of his fellow sailors of that isolated Brazilian frontier-guard, who could not read. So Antão offered to teach them to read the Bible. I sent him the materials from Maceio, and he started a school with ten sailor scholars, whom he taught to read and write in less than a year! The only textbook used was the Bible, which was not only read but duly expounded by Antão according to all he had learned from myself, or found out by study and prayer—taught by the Spirit. Result—eight of the ten young men were soundly converted, including two Redskins. They proved practical converts, too, and obedient; for they freely gave up their white rum, smoking, and gambling—a trinity of evils. They have all been scattered since, but carry the Word with them.

"I have often urged the advantages of Bible colportage to new coming missionaries, who, avoiding the usual long and trying delay while studying the language, can get to work at once with good effect learning at the same time, and more effectually too."

Correspondents

The distribution of the Bible has proved to be such an effective agency and so valuable a means of gaining access to the people in

Brazil, that an increasing number of missionaries and national workers buy and take active part in selling Scriptures. The increasing demand for Bibles in the growing Christian communities throughout the country is absorbing a larger proportion of the supply year by year. These two facts explain in part why the number of regular colporteurs under Agency control tends to decrease and the numbers classed as correspondents grow larger year by year. A few quotations from observation and reports may be of interest. One writes:

"The Bibles and New Testaments came all right and went like dew before the morning sun. I wish you could have been with me on the trip and have seen the misery, wickedness and superstitious ignorance of the people in the jungles. Of course, you have seen similar districts. They are willing to buy, but my books did not go around even for the members of the congregations I visited. A colporteur could do a fine work in that section. When I return from the States, I hope to find one, and I hope you will be able to take him on. I expect to get several persons to sell at various points for the time being, and am sending in an order."

Hard Work Avoiding Prison

Another writes: "In one place we had hard work to keep out of prison, as I insisted on telling the local chief of the police and the judge that our books were just what the people needed in times like these, especially the 'revoltosos'; and that if we were helped by them to circulate them, it would soon stop the revolution. They examined our baggage most carefully for bombs, but only found Bibles! This so impressed one of the police authorities, that he there and then purchased our very best Bible, and told us to put up at his farm on our way—which we did that same night, and held a most excellent gospel meeting among all his farm hands, who listened with rapt attention. It was so new and so strange. Yes, we were revolutionaries—all right.

"My colporteurs had twice visited this region some years ago, and in many places I saw the result of their work. In one very remote farmhouse, I found an old man well over seventy, who was manifestly converted through the reading of one of these Bibles. His sons were all old graybeards, and his grandsons with big families—quite a community, all professing to follow the religion of the father, a man of splendid appearance but now an invalid, in his last days. Alas, only the father could read, but he had never met a preacher, and he did not know how to explain properly to their children the experience he had obtained or how to lead them to the Lord. After a very impressive meeting among all these folk, I dealt personally with one of the younger men, and eventually we went out into the dense neighboring forest together, and there in mutual prayer we settled

the matter. When he arose to his feet, he exclaimed: 'I'm so satisfied!' I hope and believe he will now be able to show his other relatives, young and old, the simple but royal road to Christ and life eternal. He declared he would learn to read the Bible.

"In nearly every place we found the people willing and hungry to have the Word of Life. I was so glad to have a good number of cheap little Gospels of John which everybody could buy, or which we could afford to give away where even the humble cent was not available, — which, just at this season, is woefully common. These people are so very kind and hospitable that it is good to be able to meet their goodness with some such precious word of life as a single Gospel can convey. Our sales in Pernambuco and Alagoas were 107 Bibles, 202 Testaments, and 1,630 Gospels."

An Inseparable Companion

Again we quote: "Antão had a splendid time in the farthest inland sections of Parahyba and Pernambuco, dodging the bandits of Lampeão with many close shaves. In one place he met a man, who thirty years ago had bought a Gospel of John in a local fair, from a seller of images, rosaries, scapulars, and the like. He only had this one copy, which, he declared, was the life and teachings of John the Baptist. Our friend could not read, but the book attracted him; so he bought it for 400 reis.

"Taking it home, he got his daughter to read it to him, and soon became fascinated by its contents, and in the course of time almost learned it by heart. So very dear became the little book, that he would not travel without it on his person, though he could never read it; and more than once he returned several leagues for the same when he had forgotten to take his Gospel in his pocket, — which by this means became known in all the country round, though nobody ever associated it with the Protestants. Indeed, our friend had never met such a person. It was borrowed by most of the men of his town, and with much wear had lost a page or two, and had been recovered several times. When Antão reached the town, he sold over one hundred Gospels of John there; they would have no other kind! As for the man himself, no words can describe his delight at not only being able to get another brand new copy of his beloved little book, but to find that it was only part of a much bigger book of just the same character; and he bought himself a big type Testament. Antão and he had many long talks together, and he seems to be a really converted man.

"Our total sales since July 31, and including the above, have been as follows: 98 Bibles, 362 Testaments and 4,640 portions. Our depot now is clean empty; and I have had no news yet of the New York remittance of books! I wonder what the delay is!"

Bible Store

The statistical report shows increased sales over the counter this year. As a matter of economy in rent the Agency continues to occupy rooms one flight of steps from the ground, which is by no means so desirable and advantageous for advertising and for sales over the counter. However, it would seem that those interested to buy Bibles make little question of climbing the steps. The situation accentuates the need of a Bible House. Our faithful man at the counter has many interesting conversations, and the place becomes more and more a recognized center of evangelical influence. We rent two floors and subrent space to the Brazilian Committee on Cooperation, the Brazilian Sunday-school Union, and the local Pastors' Association. Our building also houses the Dr. José Carlos Rodrigues Memorial Library, of which the secretaries of these organizations are trustees.

São Paulo Also Wants a Bible Store

The recognized value of such a center is making a deep impression on other communities, and requests come to establish sub-Agencies of some kind in their midst. In September the following was received from the Pastors' Association of the city of São Paulo:

"DEAR BROTHER:—I have the honor of informing you that the Union of Evangelical Workers of São Paulo (Evangelical Pastors' Association) in their regular session for the month of September, having in view the extensive religious and social developments of this city and the decided advantage it would be to the evangelical cause to have located here the Agency of one of the Bible Societies that for so long and with such results have been working in Brazil; and believing that the transfer of one of these would not inconvenience the work in Rio de Janeiro:

"Resolved to approach at the same time both of these Agencies, asking that they take into consideration the request of the Union of Workers, and studying together the subject, communicate the same to their head offices in order that São Paulo may have the privilege of having in its midst the Agency that may be in condition to make the transfer.

"It is unnecessary to emphasize the great benefit that this step will involve. I take advantage of the opportunity to renew expressions of my Christian regards.

"Your colleague and brother,

"EPAMONONDAS M. DO AMARAL,

"Secretary."

Versions and Editions

Through the kindness of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society a further grant was made and the Gospel of Mark in Portuguese, Braille system, was printed at the National Brazilian Institute for the Blind, Rio de Janeiro. The Gospel of John for the

blind was printed at the same place a few years ago. So far as we know, these are the only copies of the Gospels for the blind in Portuguese; small supplies have been sent to Portugal from Rio de Janeiro.

From many sources calls have come for large-print Bibles and Testaments of the translations in use. Plans are being considered to meet this demand.

The plan of cooperation and division of territory by districts between the Agencies of the British and Foreign and the American Bible Societies continues to operate satisfactorily.

General Remarks

Several events of interest have transpired during the year. The following letter was received from the American Consul General at Rio:

"MY DEAR DR. TUCKER:—Having been called upon to submit a report concerning printed Bibles, I should be appreciative if you would be good enough to inform me at your convenience, on the following points:

"(a) Names and addresses of firms in Brazil publishing Bibles. If possible, in order of importance with denominational connections, if any.

"(b) What versions are in use?

"(c) In what languages are Bibles printed in Brazil?

"(d) Are there any new translations or versions in progress?

"(e) What is the present demand for and the volume of trade in the different versions used?

"The information desired will be included in my report for the Department of State."

I replied as follows:

"I am this morning in receipt of your letter of the 8th inst., making enquiry concerning the printing of the Bible in Brazil. I would say in the first place that I do not believe the entire Bible has ever been issued in Portuguese or any other languages by any Brazilian printing press, firm or individual. The following are answers to your inquiries in order by numbers:

"(a) — (1) O Novo Testamento, Portuguese, revised by the Franciscans, was published by the San Francisco Press, Bahia, 1910. (2) Os Santos Evangelhos de N. S. Jesus Christo, Portuguese, revised by a French priest in the College of the Immaculate Conception, 1904, was printed by P. Feron Vran, 3-5 Rua Bayard, Paris. (3) A Harmonia dos Quatro Evangelhos, Portuguese, prepared by Conego Duarte Leopoldo e Silva, was printed in São Paulo, 1903.

"(b) — (1) The Almeida Version, completed about 1748, by João Ferreira d'Almeida, minister of the Gospel in Batavia, aided by a Hollander, Jacob Obden Akker. This translation was made

from Hebrew and Greek texts; several revisions of the original translation have been made. The original and revisions have been printed in a number of editions and styles by the American Bible Society, New York, and the British and Foreign Bible Society, London. Up to the present this version has been the most widely circulated by the Protestants in Brazil.

“(2) The Figueiredo Version, first issued in 1783, was made from the Latin Vulgate by the scholarly Roman Catholic priest Antonio Pereira de Figueiredo; this version with the usual authoritative notes and comments of the fathers is now printed in Paris by the house of B. L. Garnier, 109 Rua do Ouvidor, Rio de Janeiro. The British and Foreign Bible Society publish the text of this version in several different styles, omitting what are commonly called the Apocryphal books and the notes and comments. This version is circulated by the Agencies of the two Bible Societies mentioned, but in much smaller numbers than the Almeida version.

“(3) The Brazilian Version made by a committee of three Brazilian scholars and four American missionaries: they translated from the original Hebrew and Greek text. The first edition of the entire Bible was issued by the American Bible Society, New York, 1917; the British and Foreign Bible Society issued an edition of another size and style 1924. The two Societies have equal proprietary rights in this version, as the expense of translation was shared equally by the two. This version is gaining in favor, and many think with a few changes will become the standard version for the Protestant communities.

“(c) As above indicated there are no Bibles printed in Brazil. The two Bible Society Agencies circulate the Scriptures in Brazil in more than a score of languages, Portuguese being the chief, Italian, German, Spanish, French, English follow with a number of European and Asiatic languages and occasional copies in some of the Indian dialects.

“(d) I am unable to give definite information as regards the sales of the Bible supplied by Garnier, Rua do Ouvidor, and the other portions of the Bible from Roman Catholic sources. The general information I have is that the demands are not large. Perhaps the price of the Bible printed by Garnier, 150\$000, may be one cause of small sales.

“The American Bible Society and the British and Foreign Bible Society circulate in Brazil annually about 20,000 copies of the entire Bible, 30,000 New Testaments, and 100,000 copies of separate books of the Bible. The demand increases year by year.

“About three-sixths of the Bibles circulated are of the Almeida version, two-sixths of the Brazilian version, and one-sixth of the Figueiredo version.”

The Roman Catholic Hierarchy Bestirring Itself

The Primate Archbishop, supported by twenty or more bishops who attended, indeed by the entire Roman Catholic hierarchy of Brazil, called a Congress on Ecclesiastical Vocations for the purpose of discussing the most efficient means of awakening among young men interest in the priesthood. Pope Pius XI calls for a genuinely national clergy in every country. The reports, speeches, and discussions emphasized the fact that Brazil has had to depend largely on foreign priests for lack of nationals, and that the number in service is wholly inadequate. It was stated that in all there are only about 2,000 priests in Brazil to minister to a population of more than 30,000,000, or one for every 15,000 of souls; there are parishes in the state of Bahia where the Congress was held, larger in area than Belgium and Holland, served by only one priest; there are far larger areas in which there are only single priests to minister to 50,000 and even 100,000 inhabitants.

Following this congress at Bahia, a Missionary Week was observed at Rio de Janeiro. Here similar facts and figures were brought to light, clearly setting forth the distressing spiritual need of the country. One bishop lamented the lack of laborers, and stated that for sixteen parishes in his diocese, each parish church having a number of chapels in outlying communities, there are available only nine priests; and four of these, due to circumstances beyond their control, can render but little service. Scarcely any catechetical instruction is being given. During his pastoral visit for the last four months he made special investigation, and laments the profound ignorance of the people on religious matters. Large numbers of adult persons came to him and the priests to make confession for the first time; there are many who do not know the Lord's Prayer and the Hail Mary. The priests do not give the people the Bible, and seventy-five per cent could not read it if they did.

The population of Brazil, now about 35,000,000, has more than doubled since the census at the beginning of the Republic in 1890, and European immigration, with considerable numbers from Asiatic countries, is increasing. These combined facts present a distressing picture of spiritual dearth and need and a problem of rapidly increasing proportions.

The President of the Republic Speaks

It is easy to see how readily awakened sensitive nationalism may be related with the appeal for a national clergy. The President of the Republic, whose term of office ended in November, telegraphed to the governors of all the states his parting message, which was an appeal for a moral educational basis. He says:

"The setting apart in all the Brazilian primary schools of one day in the week for the moral, civic, and social education, chiefly

the moral, of our young fellow-countrymen, appears to me to be the best starting point for the crusade of making men, which constitutes, in the wise opinion of Rousseau, the first of all utilities. It would, perhaps, be to great advantage, if this instruction could be given during the last day of the week's schoolwork, in order that each pupil might carry to the home and into outward relations, fresh in his memory, the lessons received from the teacher; thus contributing sensibly to the generalization of the spirit of the child in the destinies of the country."

He was intimately associated with the Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro and the priests during the four years of his administration. The new governor of the state from which the ex-president came, said in his inaugural address, "The government will gravely err that does not make use of the great power that religion is, to carry forward all constructive measures that it conceives and proposes to realize." On the occasion of recent political state conventions, bishops and priests have telegraphed their approval of certain senatorial and representative candidates. Politicians recognize the influence of the priesthood over the people and seek its aid at election time.

An Appropriate and Desired Jubilee Memorial

The Brazil Agency was definitely authorized, and an Agent engaged, at the close of the year 1876, but actual work was begun in the year 1877. This being true, 1927 will more properly be the jubilee year for the Agency. We are hoping that suitable recognition may be made and advantage may be taken of the event to further the cause of Bible distribution and study in Brazil. The one suggestion that we would lay emphasis upon is that a fund be raised to purchase or erect a suitable building for a Bible House at Rio de Janeiro, the capital of the Republic. I cannot conceive of a more suitable jubilee offering or a more important forward step that could be taken at the close of fifty years and the beginning of a new period, than the acquisition of a permanent Bible House at Rio de Janeiro. It would give me personally great joy to see this end achieved as I now go forward into my fortieth year of service for the American Bible Society in Brazil.

It has been my pleasure to serve on committees and to take active part in plans and efforts to secure funds and property for the Evangelical Hospital for native Christians; the Strangers' Hospital for the American, British and other foreign communities of Rio; two buildings for the Y. M. C. A., the first having become too small and inadequate, the second being now under construction; the People's Central Institute with its church and four other buildings; the great Bennett College for the higher education of girls and young women; and several churches of different denominations. It would be a source of great satisfaction to see at this time one more greatly

needed building added to the number. One hundred thousand dollars would buy the first Y. M. C. A. building now for sale. It is admirably located for a Bible House, would give abundant space for store and office, and additional store and office space that would easily bring in a rental of at least six or seven per cent annually on the entire investment.

Statistical Summary

We give below as usual a general summary of the year's work in so far as it can be expressed in figures:

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Sales at depositories.....	6,168	5,881	43,325	55,374
Sales by colporteurs.....	1,645	2,051	34,502	38,198
Sales by correspondents.....	892	1,108	44,249	46,249
Total	8,705	9,040	122,076	139,821
Donations, etc.	45	51	3,942	4,038
Other items	221	172	2,809	3,202
Grand total	8,971	9,263	128,827	147,061

EUROPE

The Society has no established Agency in Europe, save in such countries as are included in the Levant Agency. It, however, has correspondents in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Finland, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Jugoslavia, Belgium, France, Switzerland, and Italy. Through these correspondents it is able to assist in the supply of the Holy Scriptures to many who might not receive them otherwise.



WITH the reports from usual sources there will be found this year some from unusual sources. Nor is all the work, accomplished by our Society, represented or reported in the pages which follow. As has happened in previous years, details of work have not been received from some of our correspondents. But most of them have been heard from. The reports will be presented by countries, beginning at the north and running from west to east in irregular tiers.

NORWAY

Our correspondent in Norway, the Rev. C. L. Tholander, of the Methodist Episcopal Conference, writes from Oslo of the work accomplished through the assistance of the American Bible Society.

We have this year distributed Bibles to our Sunday schools. There were many of them that didn't receive any Bibles in the last year. None of our Sunday schools or Bible classes owned a Bible. And you can believe that these Bibles were very welcome, and are diligently used by our Sunday-school workers and young people. We have also distributed some Bibles to our homes for aged and homes for children. It has been arranged so that two Bibles are to be laid out in every chamber in all homes for aged and homes for children. The director and directoresses of these homes will sure send me a little communication and tell me how the Bibles have been received and loved. Here in our country the Bibles are very dear; so it didn't suffice the requirement. The cheapest Bible we can use for children (the petit edition) costs \$1.50; and the cheapest Bible we can use for elderly people, costs \$2.

In a letter written only three days later, Mr. Tholander reports with satisfaction that he has

just learned that the Norwegian Bible Society is reducing its prices on Bibles.

SWEDEN

From Edwin Janson, the treasurer of the Bible Committee of the Swedish Conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, has come acknowledgment of the grant made by our Society with the statement,

By means of this contribution and helps we have been favored with in other ways during the year, it has been possible for us to distribute more Bibles and New Testaments to an extent otherwise impossible. * * * Our Methodist preachers and Sunday-school presidents distributed 346 Bibles and 92 New Testaments in Sweden. I am glad to say that it has been a very good and useful thing to be able to dispose Bibles for work among children and young people. They have asked me to return their most hearty thanks to the Bible Society for this valuable gift.

FINLAND

The report from Finland comes this year over a new name. Pastor Peter Talikka, who has been placed in charge of this phase of work by the Methodist Episcopal Conference in Finland, writes:

We are very grateful to the American Bible Society for the aid it has granted to us. It has been a great joy to distribute Bibles and New Testaments, especially in our Sunday schools. Many children have received Bible or New Testament as a memento from the Sunday-school. There are homes without the Bible. We are glad that we are able to give one to such a home. Our Seamen's Mission will receive some aid this year from the money you have placed in our disposal. So they are able to distribute the more New Testaments and portions of Scriptures in various languages to the sailors. This year we shall circulate Bibles and New Testaments in rural districts more than in previous years through our woman evangelists. This, of course, is possible only through your generous help.

RUSSIA

Those who have followed events connected with the distribution of Scriptures in Russia will remember that the American Bible Society paid for the plates for a Russian Bible following modern orthog-

raphy, of which an edition of 25,000 was printed by the "All-Russian Union Evangelical Christians." Happily the demand for these Bibles has been so great that a further edition has been needed. There has also been a call for an edition in a smaller size. Concerning this gratifying demand, Mr. I. S. Prokhanoff, the president, writes:

When at New York I told you that 25,000 Bibles, which were printed at Leningrad, proved to be insufficient to satisfy the needs of our churches and congregations. From all sides of the country we receive requests from brethren to send them more Bibles. Besides that, there are demands for a smaller size of the Bible. We have decided, therefore, to print another edition of 10,000 Bibles of a reduced size.

We are making the reduction by a photographic process from the Bible already printed. I am enclosing herewith a sample page of that Bible. The cost of the edition (10,000 copies) will be \$9,000 including the cost of plates, paper, printing, etc. The unforeseen expenditure requires some more help.

Can your Society help us with \$2,000 for this edition? Or can you apply to some Christian friends who can render this help. Kindly cable what you can do in this matter?

DENMARK

Our correspondent, the Rev. E. Ried, writes on behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Conference through which our service is rendered:

Your grant of \$200 for the year 1926 we have received for distribution of Holy Bibles in Denmark, and we send our best thanks for this donation. By this kind donation, supplemented with the collections in our own country (Kronen 56) for the same purpose, it has been possible to our Methodist pastors and Sunday-school presidents to circulate (by donation) among poor people in Denmark 124 Holy Bibles and 146 New Testaments. It is always a joy to do the work of God, and especially to spread the Word of God among the poor and the people. We request you kindly to favor us in 1927 with the same donation as last year, that we may be able to continue this blessed work in Denmark.

GERMANY

On behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Conference the Rev. C. H. Burkhardt reports the circula-

tion of 3,551 Bibles, 1,551 Testaments, 20,046 portions, or a total of 25,148 volumes. In addition he writes:

By our inclosed annual statement you will see that the second part of the appropriation of 1926 came in my hands February, 1926, and therefore the appropriation for 1926 with 1,000 Dollars is included with them. My Annual Conference, which I represent, has commissioned me to say the honored Bible Society the cordial thanks for the benevolent interest which the Society has shown for our work in the propagation of the Holy Bible; with the warmest request, also in the year 1927 to appropriate the same sum for this work.

Because the checks of this year came in my hands early enough, we were able to produce a new edition of our Bocked-Bible, that will help us in the propagation. We have taken precautions that we, with your support, are able to sell the Bible still at a more favorable price in future than we did till now.

The greatest necessity of our people is, as till now also in the future, the Word of God. Of course, a great part of our people has not yet understood this fact; but it has begun to feel a want for the same and we will hope our people will be healed by this well. But the economical needs of our people is not yet conquered. There are nearly two millions who are without employment, therefore the poor population is scarcely able to gain enough for their daily bread. The most Bibles will be circulated by our ministers and the membership of our congregations.

Since last summer the Methodist Episcopal Church in Germany is organized in five annual conferences and we hope this will help to circulate more Bibles this year than the last one. The direction of the whole work is in the hands of the agency in Bremen, as till now also in future. We try with the aided sum to do the best, and pray to God that he may give his rich blessing to this work. As you see, we also have in this year a good number of Bibles more circulated than the last year, and we will try in the year 1927 to come another way forward.

POLAND

Through the Ukrainian Evangelical Alliance of North America assistance has been rendered in the circulation of the Scriptures in Poland. The Rev. Kusiw, president of the Alliance, writes:

Enclosed please find excerpts from a few of the letters received from our countrymen in Poland, expressing the joy of reading the Scriptures which you so kindly donated to them.

Oliewa, Korniw.

"I am reading your paper *Faith and Knowledge* from its first number, and I came to the conclusion that only through the Holy Book can we come to salvation and truth. I received the Holy Book from Dr. Morozowych, in Horodenka. I have studied it (not alone) every Sunday. I read a portion from it in our reading society, and the people like it better than everything they ever heard. We have forty-seven here who want to join evangelical brotherhood. I am a church cantor in the Greek Catholic Church here, and I understand the value of the Book and can a little tell it to others. I cut out the Gospel of St. Luke, bound it myself, and sent it to Kolinki. I did the same with Acts, and sent it to Daschkiw. I cut out also the Book of Isaiah and had to send it to Theodor Pawlich, Horyhlady, County Townach—he is president of the reading hall there, and a very influential man. He writes me that his people want also the New Testament; but I could send them only the fifteen first chapters of St. John. Dr. Morozowych could not give me another Holy Book; so I asked him to order one for me. Please to send me any books dealing with salvation. Probably I will understand more and will be able to tell more to others.

I wish you all good.

"MAXIMILIAN ZACHARIEWYCH."

Woskresinei, Poland.

"Fathers Kusiw and Crath were here. They preached salvation. We listened and thought Christ himself was among us. Father Kusiw gave us "Evangelium." What a beautiful book, full of sermons such no one ever heard. We read and cry and rejoice. Our priest says we are crazy. All right! we want rather to be crazy with this heavenly book, than to be wise without it. How much does it cost? Where can we get three more? Please to send. Glory to Christ Jesus.

"SEMEN WOWCHUK."

Ispas, Poland.

"I received your paper and 'Evangelium' from Dr. Morozowych. This book of God started a revolution in our village. Nichola Charun, the biggest drunkard in our village, does not drink any more. Every day, when his children come from school, he gives them something to eat, and then they read God's Word to him, which I lent him for one month. He does not go to 'korshma' (barroom) any more. His wife met me yesterday and said, 'May God give health to those that brought this book to our village. If I had money, I would put golden covers on that book.' He stays home now with his children. He likes it, I like it, and children like it. Our priest told my girl she should not read, because she does not understand it. But we all understand it. It is plain. * * * If you can send me one more book, I want to send it to my brother-in-law. Maybe it will stop him from beating his wife.

"JACOB MYKYTYSHYN."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

As usual our long-time correspondent, the Rev. J. S. Porter, sends material of considerable interest in reporting on the work of the year, which included a circulation of 430 Bibles, 90 Testaments and 1,050 portions, or a total of 1,570 volumes. This, of course, is simply the work accomplished through the assistance of the American Bible Society, a part of its grant being used on the salary of the colporteur.

During the past year there have been sold about 45,000 copies of the Scriptures in Czechoslovakia. This includes the work of all the colporteurs that are at work here, and also the sales at the depository. Our population is about 14,000,000 — one copy for about every 300 of the population.

The one colporteur in our employ has done very faithful work. He has revisited families and stirred them up to read Bibles bought long ago; has shown them how they should read it for the greatest profit. We may regard this as very important part of the work. It is of little avail to have a Bible somewhere in the home and not open it. The colporteur has also done much work while on the railway trains. Selling on the trains is forbidden, but there is great freedom of speech, and this is the open door to many orders for Bibles.

Let the colporteur speak for himself.

"In T—— a man bought a Bible secretly for fear of his Romanist wife. In another house the wife purchased a Bible secretly, for fear of her husband. Later, I stopped at the house when they were both at home and finally the whole secret came out. They laughed at the fears of the other, and were glad that they each had a Bible.

"In a train I engaged in conversation with a man, who evidenced an interest in the Bible. He laid emphasis on the fact that God had priests to be mediators between God and man. I said that, according to the Bible, we were all brethren. 'One is your Master, even Christ and all ye are brethren.' Priests are usually in it for gain. They feed themselves, and rob the flock. The man then said, 'I am a priest.' He was traveling incognito. But I continued: 'Then you are one of them. You have no forgiveness of sins. You have no certainty of salvation. You do not know the living Christ. You are on the road to eternal death.' The priest accepted a copy of God's Word, and wrote down the address of our gospel hall in Prague. He thanked me and gave me his hand as we parted. Priests here are notoriously avaricious.

"One of my efficient helpers is Mr. Z—— who bought a Bible of me several years ago and then, later, burned it. Again we met after the lapse of a longer time, and I again pressed upon him the need of reading the Bible. He began to read it anew and was soon converted with his family. Now he is helping me not a little by telling the good news of salvation in Christ, and often so commends the Word of God that people come to me for a Bible. Mr. Z—— is a traveling salesman and hence has many opportunities to witness for Christ.

"I met in the train some Jews, to whom I read Isaiah 53. One of them bought a Bible. All were interested to hear of the Messiah. A man ordered a Bible, and then, when I brought it, would not take it. I met him again later, and he purchased a Bible. One must persevere.

"I was on the train to Ch——. A lady sat opposite me, nicely dressed, with her lap full of newspapers. I soon noticed that she was not at peace. She began to read the booklet, and all at once burst into tears. She told me that her only son had just died. I said to her: 'I see that some one is thinking of you, about whom you have thus far thought little. It is God, your Creator. He has a right to you and to all you have — to all he has committed to your charge. You are dear to him, and therefore he takes from you that which hinders you on the way to what will bring you true joy. Christ came to save you by his blood. The Bible is a treasure. In it we find the way to joy and peace and light.' I related to her some of my experiences; how God led me and brought me through affliction, for which now I am thankful. For he found me and rescued me. Thereupon she immediately purchased a Bible. She could not thank me enough, and would gladly have given me money for my words of advice!

"I called in to see a man employed in one of the courts, to whom I had sold a Bible long ago. He was glad to see me and related to me some of his new found joy. 'I did not understand the Bible at first,' he said, 'but now I understand. The truths are so grand. Salvation is free. I did not know it before. But my family does not understand me when I read the Bible, as I often do. I cannot be interested in what interests them.'"

Thus the story runs. It is old, and yet ever new. Blessed be the Lord and Saviour who allows us to bring people in contact with his Word! I wish you could know this colporteur and see his faith and trust in God, and his knowledge of the Scriptures. God has led him into some of the deep things of his kingdom. From the statistics you will see that this man — with what a woman, the widow of a colporteur, can do from time to time — has sold: Bibles, 430; Testaments, 90; and Gospels, 1,050; a total of 1,570 volumes.

BELGIUM

Again an interesting and rather full report comes from Mr. Ralph C. Norton, director of the Belgium Gospel Mission, as he reports on the work for 1926.

We have received your letter of November 15, and I have asked that this form be filled out for you so that you might have the information you desire. I am now enclosing same and trust that it will be exactly what you wish. It shows exactly what the \$300 which you sent us has purchased. It likewise shows the number of our colporteurs who have given partial time to the distribution of this literature. I am sending this just a little before December 31, but it can be taken as though the account were made up until the very last of the year.

How the Mission appreciates your cooperation in this work of Scripture distribution within the little Kingdom of Belgium, and, oh, what fruit is being gathered from the work!

The other day I saw a gentleman in our church, who had been coming for some time, and I said to him, "How did you become a Christian?" He said, "At the commercial fair last April you gave me a portion of Scripture"—it was the little book you have probably seen entitled "God Has Spoken,"—and he said that awakened him, and that he came to our services here in Belgium. "I was converted," he said, "and here is my wife, and she has found Christ too." There were also his daughter and a younger lad who were attending our services, and I think, our Sunday-school. We frequently find people who have been awakened by the Word of God, and then have come to our services and been born again.

We have a colporteur who has been working down in the most southeastern province of the land, called Luxemburg, for some nine months. He has had a remarkable experience in colporteur-ing in that dark province, and during that time he has sold over 2,500 Testaments and Bibles, and has distributed thousands of portions and tracts. He has had the joy of finding some Christians scattered throughout that region. He lives at a place called Marche and has colporteur-ed within a radius of 25 kilometers (15 miles) from his base. This territory has not been colporteur-ed probably since the days of the Reformation, four hundred years ago; there may have been some Christians who have gone through and some little work done, but at least no systematic work; thus our sales have been enormous.

Our Gospel car went through this province, and souls were saved through hearing the message on the street and through buying the Scriptures. This colporteur of Marche found one young man in an isolated village, who had been led to Christ through the Scripture distribution that we made in the Belgian Army, as he was then a

soldier; and there he was the sole Christian in that village. The priest and many of the people were fighting him very severely; but, he said, he was faithfully standing. This colporteur sold some thirty-two Bibles in that village and gave this young man the names, saying that he must now be the sentinel to keep guard over these thirty-two souls that had the Light in their homes; viz., the Light of the Word of God.

The distribution this year has far surpassed that of last, and I think it will be equal to any year that we have ever had, and may even surpass what we have done; one year we did distribute some 20,000 Bibles and New Testaments, and this year will quite equal that. This record surpasses the other, because much of our work this year has been done in very fanatical territory, where sales are not so great, but where the work is much more needed; and therefore we believe the accomplishment is much greater.

The following is an extract from the report of the colporteur mentioned above:

"It has happened in some of the villages where the priest has been so inspired by the Devil and has worked so vigorously, that almost not one book or portion that had been sold there remains in the hands of the people. At one place, where I had sold more than thirty booklets, New Testaments, etc., and where I had been well received, the priest took as a text of the following Sunday service the first chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, particularly the miraculous birth of our Lord. He said that our version stated that the Virgin conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost, and commented so well — for the devil — on this passage, that the greater part of the people burnt all their Bibles and books, saying that they were immoral for the young. One of the men of this village has stated that, if I go there again, it will be at my own risk."

The opposition of the Roman Catholic Church and her priests has become very formidable. They say that they are being threatened by this "invasion" of the Word of God. So you see what God is doing through this work, in which you are so interested — the scattering of the Seed that is bound to bear fruit. True, it is a savor of death unto some, but thank God, it is a savor of life unto others. Can you not understand how we appreciate your assistance in this seed-sowing?

In September, 1926, Mr. Norton wrote:

Permit me to thank you, not only for myself, but in behalf of the Mission for the 5,000 Testaments you are sending to us. In two and a half months we sold from our Gospel car 2,750 New Testaments, besides many thousands of other pieces of literature given away.

In November this word followed:

The summer campaigns are over. Our second Gospel car (roulotte) is just now ready for the road. Our first car has had a memorable summer. Statistics of its service read something as follows: "In two and one-half months' time 200 adult meetings have been held and 55 meetings for children. About 2,750 New Testaments have been sold, besides many thousands of Gospels and tracts that have been given away."

One of our younger workers, when reporting privately these figures, said quaintly, "If the Catholics knew this, they would certainly have a headache, because they are rather fidgety about us already." And, as never before, we, as a mission, are humbly rejoicing in the Lord and waiting upon him; for "it is good for me to draw near to God" (Psalm 73:28), "the Lord is good unto them that wait for him" (Lam. 3:25), and "blessed are all they that wait for Him" (Is. 30:18).

FRANCE

The most considerable assistance rendered by our Society in the distribution of Scriptures in any one country during 1926 was that to the Bible Society of France. Its earnest and active secretary, Major G. Bertrand, has sent the following appreciative report:

During the year 1926 the Bible Society of France has had the satisfaction of again recording real progress. Its activities in France have advanced slowly but surely. Though checked in its growth somewhat by the unfavorable economic conditions following the war, the Society has now taken on new life and strength, thanks to the assistance of its friends.

At the very head of the list of these friends (we record this, though all French Protestantism knows it is true) stands the American Bible Society. Without that Society it would have been impossible for us to establish a budget.

These are the facts; we take this opportunity to give credit where it is due.

Statistics

The number of books distributed at marriages and first communions among the poor churches, as grants, are as follows:

931 Marriage Bibles of various kinds, to the value of...	27,372 fr.
437 New Testaments (marriage)—large size.....	8,955 fr.
1977 Communion N. T. (small size).....	15,816 fr.

Total value 52,143 fr.

Now the \$1,500 sent by the American Bible Society in 1926 has

brought us by exchange a total of 53,485 fr. 10 centimes; this figure being due to the drop of the franc during the first half of the year! So that this free distribution of books in 1926 has been made possible wholly by the American Bible Society. This, therefore, has allowed us to devote our own resources to the publication of a new edition of a New Testament and Psalms for young people, for which there was pressing need. This edition, planned in 1925 and carried out in 1926, could never have been produced had the American Bible Society not stood by our side to assist in our regular work for which we exist, to furnish Scriptures to the churches and other Protestant organizations of France.

As we have completely exhausted our little stock of 32mo New Testaments bound in blue cloth, your Society has prepared for us a new lot of 5,000 copies. This arrived just in time to permit us to restock our colporteurs, especially in the suburbs of Paris which have been growing immeasurably, and to help our missions at Madagascar, in New Caledonia and Indo-China.

New Editions — Future Program

The 24mo (small format) New Testaments and Psalms, reserved for catechumens, was published in the autumn. All our friends write us that it is a pretty little volume, very well gotten up. Its size is suitable for the purpose for which it is intended. The type is clear and neat. The text is the Synod's Version, revised by a committee of members of the Society. This committee has given every care possible to its work of revision. The Synod's Version is therefore constantly proceeding toward perfection, each new edition bringing some change in text of what is known as the "Authorized Version" of our French Protestant Churches.

And now we have a program for a New Testament edition in the form of an ordinary library book. It has already been formulated, and you know all the plans. The details of its realization have no place in this report. But you know that it is the "great work" to which we want to devote ourselves now for a while, because we feel so assured of its success, with your aid and that of the leading publisher in Paris, that we should not like to see the matter postponed.

SWITZERLAND

The Rev. E. Burnet, reporting for the Evangelical Society of Geneva, sends this message:

Whatever may be the activities which the Geneva Evangelical Society displays, its main work, as you know, is connected with the colporting of Bibles. During the present year, the Society had at its service, either occasionally or permanently, 72 colporteurs who were engaged in a great number of French departments, also in Belgium,

and who spread everywhere the Word of God, the gospel, the Spirit of Jesus-Christ. In many places our colporteurs really are heartily welcomed. Hereafter are some extracts from their letters:

"I meet very busy people, some do agricultural work, others are cutting stones or simply go on their way. One must get at them wherever they be, and not falter to approach them. However, the very best moment always occurs when the whole family is assembled round the table; it is there that people talk, put questions, and good conversation may be engaged in. Really, there are fine opportunities to preach the gospel! Young and old are listening, discussing, approving; in fact, it is most interesting. The family is similar to a field to be sown upon. There I throw the heavenly seed, trusting to reap a fine crop. At times, on receiving a cheerful welcome in a house, some neighbors come in and join the family, thus forming quite a small congregation to listen to the Word of God. Places where there are lots of working men often are spheres most meet for the sale of Holy Books and almanacs. Paying visits to patients also is particularly interesting."

"Some patients ask me to call on them frequently: 'Nobody has ever come to bring us such glad tidings as you do,' they say. 'How well you know the Gospels of our Lord! You give us comfort! Don't forget us in your prayers! Come back again soon!' Thus, souls are to be found that long for divine truth."

"I am told they buy my books to read them on winter evenings. Here and there a few words of explanation and testimony, and every one takes up his work again, whereas I pursue my road."

"A Bible sold in former times has led to far-reaching results; it has won to the truth one member of a family, who, in his turn, won over three others; so that now the whole family is connected with our church."

"A police magistrate wrote to me: 'I understand you are selling Bibles; could you manage to bring a copy to my office at the Law Court?' Of course, I complied with this request; the magistrate chose a Bible with concordance, and said: Be of good cheer.'"

This colporteur did rather good business. Within the fortnight at the end of which he wrote this report, he had been able to sell 4 Bibles, 185 New Testaments, quite as many extracts of the Holy Scriptures. Furthermore, he had distributed as free gifts 1,083 leaflets and booklets.

Another one who travels in southern France, also sold within two weeks 11 Bibles, 128 New Testaments, and 239 various publications. Such figures are by no means exceptional; most of our agents report similar figures. The number of Holy Scriptures sold during this year amounted to 4,303 Bibles, 19,617 New Testaments, and 6,659 parts of the Scripture.

On behalf of the Methodist Episcopal Church Conference in Switzerland, Dr. R. Ernst Grob sends a brief message in acknowledgment of assistance received from our Society:

Zurich, April 20, 1927.

Enclosed I beg to send you the annual statement ending December 31, 1926. I also wish to thank you for your generous gift of \$350, which proved to be very helpful. The year ending December last has been a very good one, the number of Scriptures purchased at your Society's expense surpassing the previous years. Our church is deeply interested in the distribution of the Scripture in our country, and our toil has not been in vain. The Bible has borne fruit in awakening and renewing lives. We do not always see the fruit at once, and many of the fruits fall into our neighbor's garden. There is no doubt an eager demand for the Word of God, and we try to do our very best in making our people appreciate the Book of Life.

CENTRAL EUROPE

Again, during the past year, assistance was rendered in the supply of Hebrew Old, and Greek New, Testaments, to the students of the evangelical theological seminaries in Central Europe. The Rev. Dr. Adolf Keller, director of the Central Office of Church Relief Work in Europe connected with the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, makes the following report:

I thank you very much for the \$500 for Bibles to be distributed among the theological schools. The money was distributed to the theological Faculties in all the sixteen suffering countries which we help, in proportion to the number of their students.

You will find enclosed a list of the distributions which have been made. The distribution took place according to the approximate proportion of students in the different countries and churches. I asked the church leaders or professors to send you directly the acknowledgment.

To Budapest	\$52	To Keidany	\$9
Cluj, Rumania	22	Torza, Yugoslavia	5
Hermannstadt, Hungary	13	Zagreb	6
Vienna, Austria	16	Riga, Latvia	14
Berlin-Charlottenburg	185	Tallium, Esthonia	12
Paris	42	Rome	6
Warsaw, Poland	14	Frankfort on Main—Ginnheim... ..	5
Prague II	12	Prague	12
Gablonz on Neckar	12	Leipzig	10
Mikulas	12	Stanislau, Poland	15
Rimaszombat, Czechoslovakia	10	Foreign students in Zurich.....	10
Birzai, Lithuania	6		

\$500

In addition Dr. Keller forwarded grateful acknowledgments from professors and Faculties of a dozen of the twenty-two institutions in which assistance was rendered. They show, abundantly, that the students have needed, and have gratefully appreciated, these Scriptures in Hebrew and Greek.

ITALY

The representative of the Waldensian Society, Signor B. Léger, gives details in acknowledging assistance from our Society.

I thank you most cordially for your so kind letter of the 17th of August last, and, in a most special way, for the generous grant of your Society to our work of spreading the Holy Scriptures throughout our land. The \$250 have duly come to hand and proved a very precious and timely help. Later on I will send you again our usual report.

Some days ago I received from Dr. Keller, of Zurich Central Office for Evangelical Church Relief Work in Europe, the sum of \$6, being a gift of your Society for Hebrew and Greek Bibles or portions for our divinity students. This, too, will be a very appreciated help to our students.

Your kind letter of the 15th of November last has duly reached me through the American Waldensian Aid Society, and I am glad to be able to tell you that our work has been steadfastly continued and not without many encouraging results. Our field of labor extends from the Alps to the furthest bound of Sicily. The seed cast into it is the Word of God in its simplicity and purity. This seed our fathers, inspired and guided by God, sowed broadcast and we, whose experience today is that it remains the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, do not intend to use any other. Owing to the revival of Catholicism in our country and to the special circumstances attending it, our work is being more than ever hindered, most of all by those who should welcome every effort to extend God's kingdom.

Still, during our ecclesiastical year, July 1, 1925, to June 30, 1926, our pastors and evangelists have had the opportunity to distribute: Bibles, 472; New Testaments, 568, and portions, 1,631. Our pastors and evangelists are frequently helped in the spreading of Scriptures, even by those who have only begun to know for themselves its fertilizing properties. "Women of culture and distinction," writes the *Evangelist* of Biella (Piedmont), "who have found nothing to satisfy the spirit in the worship of their church, have made advance to some

of our sisters and to us, anxious for talk on religious things and giving evidence of profound sense of need. They have bought Bibles and read our publications with enthusiasm, which one of their number has lent to all the families in the place where she lives. At Leghorn 'several of our hearers,' writes the pastor, 'not Romanists, read the Bible and our publications. Signor G——, for example, has, in the course of one month, placed Bibles in the hands of six persons of his acquaintance. He has not joined the church, but he is one of the faithful and will certainly do so before long.' The attractiveness of the "Word" and the blessed results of its reading are shown by the following fact — among many — related by our pastor of Caranto. 'We have a catechumen, who works in a factory. When his fellows learned he was attending our church, they said to him, "You do right. There one learns to live well." His wife, who has four small children to attend to, cannot come to the service; but she has also turned to the gospel and reads from it every evening to her illiterate husband. More than once, passing their humble dwelling of an evening, I have found them seated beside the bed where their infants were sleeping, the wife reading from the New Testament to her husband, who was eagerly listening, though worn out by twelve hours of grinding toil.'"

In my last year's letter, I referred about the Catholic Congress of the Gospel, at Bologna, as an indirect fruit of our efforts to circulate the Holy Scriptures. You will likely learn with pleasure that the Congress met, for a second time, at Milan in October last, many cardinals, bishops and other prelates being present. Among the resolutions passed, in addition to those of last year, were the following:

1. That the so-called "groups of the gospel" be more widely spread and better organized, especially among the Catholic youth of both sexes, in order to prepare fit and zealous propagators of a more pious practice of the reading of the gospel.
2. That in all meetings of the Catholics the custom be adopted of commencing with the reading of a passage from the Gospel.
3. That the book of the Gospel be presented to children on their first communion, to scholars on leaving the religious schools, to young people on their marriage day.

At last, the Roman Church begins to enjoin, on a still very limited scale, that which our church has always practiced and constituted, centuries and centuries ago, the very motive of her separation from Rome. We shall certainly be the first to rejoice if these counsels will be largely put into practice. Please to convey to your noble and generous Society the heartfelt gratitude of our whole church for the precious and constant help she has received from you. May our Lord be pleased to bless our united efforts for the progress of his glorious cause in our land.

Something of the conditions and accomplishments of the year through our cooperation with the Methodist Episcopal Mission in Italy is reported by the Rev. Carlo M. Ferreri.

The request for Bibles grows steadily; but we must be very cautious, because the Holy Scriptures we distribute are often taken by our adversaries who destroy them; even if they are not bought, we do not want to see this destruction.

The difficulties at present are such that we can no longer rely on the sale and distribution in public, but our work must be done from house to house, particularly in connection with the meetings held in families. Many of the adherents are afraid to come to us; so we try to fill the gap our enemies create around us, intensifying the prayer meetings and Bible studies in the houses of our brethren with invitations to their Catholic relations and friends. We have thus the opportunity to preach and diffuse the gospel more efficaciously. We have noted that, in these meetings, the habit is spreading of making gifts of Bibles at weddings and birthdays — which shows an increased development of religious needs.

Whereas before the diffusion of the Bible was greater among the rural and working classes, today it is the intellectual classes that take a greater interest in it, which gives us good hopes for the future. The compulsory religious teaching in schools has also favored the purchase of the Holy Scriptures, from those teachers of liberal tendency, who prefer the Protestant edition to the Catholic one. I have to thank the American Bible Society for what it has done in the past, and for what it will further do to help our church in this important work.



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LEVANT

The Levant Agency was established in 1836. Until 1921 the territory constituting its field was the Turkish Empire in Europe and Asia, including Egypt and the Sudan. The establishment of the Arabic-Levant Agency in 1921 divided its field. The territory now covered by the work of the Agency is the Republic of Turkey and adjacent states in Europe and Asia, including Bulgaria, Greece, and the republics of the Caucasus. The workers reported were 18 colporteurs and 16 correspondents; altogether 34. The issues for 1926 were 31,503 volumes. The total issues of the Agency to December 31, 1926, are 4,606,686. The Rev. J. Oscar Boyd, D.D., is Agency Secretary, Bible House, Stamboul, Constantinople, Turkey.



SERIES of encouraging facts will be found in this report to offset the continuing fact that colporteurs are not yet free to move about in the Turkish Republic. Official promulgation of the new Civil Code including provision for religious liberty, supported by the government later in a test case; the Bible free to circulate throughout the Republic; Turkish newspapers carrying advertisements of Scriptures for sale; Turkish book concerns offering the Scriptures to their patrons; teachers in Moslem theological schools, not only allowing their students to have Scriptures, but requesting copies of the Scriptures for themselves, — these are indeed welcome facts. Service to the Armenians continues from this Agency, though it has to follow them to the Armenian Republic on the far east and to France on the west. Mr. MacCallum, who has been in charge during the absence of Dr. Boyd, has furnished an interesting report about the work in Turkey. It is complemented by reports from Mr. Popoff in Bulgaria, and from the workers in Greece and Syria, with an introduction by Dr. Boyd, Agency Secretary, who returns to his charge in the fall of 1927.

The story of the old Levant Agency for 1926 (the ninetieth year of its history, by the way) is chiefly made up of reports, both statistical and general, from the men of Oriental races in charge of the three centers of distribution remote from Constantinople, the Agency's headquarters. The Rev. M. N. Popoff, now for thirteen years di-

rector of our work in Bulgaria, tells what has been going forward in Sofia, the capital, where he resides, and through colportage in the market towns and villages. Tokatlidis, the devoted colporteur of Salonika, who clears our books and keeps our accounts for the Macedonian work, writes of the unusual discouragements he has encountered the past year, but, together with his remaining colleagues, presents causes for gratitude and helpfulness. Seropian's report from Beirut, however, is undoubtedly the most touching of all, in its reminder of the Armenians' loyalty to their Bible, shown not only by the way they buy it even in their pitiful economic conditions as refugees in a foreign land, but also by the gifts they make out of their deep poverty to help the Bible Society's program.

To these various voices Mr. MacCallum's word from our Constantinople office is prefixed as a suitable introduction and survey. This was the first full year of his administration as Acting Secretary. It has shown his fitness for the task and intelligent devotion to it. The Secretary of the Agency, now on furlough in America, has relied on him, and on our experienced bookkeeper at Beirut, Mr. S. T. Cassapi, for management of all the details both of manufacturing and of distribution.

One thing stands out most impressively from these various documents—the critical character of the present moment in the religious history of the Armenian people. They have passed through crisis after crisis since the so-called "first massacres" of 1895. But it may be questioned whether there has ever been a situation so menacing as the situation of to-day, for the scattered remnants of this race, provided we share the belief of many thoughtful Armenians, that their race, historically the first to embrace Christianity as a nation, has now a mission and a future in the world only in proportion to its loyalty to Christianity. Whether on the mountain slopes and in the valleys of the Armenian Republic, where the Christian religion and Christian morality are barely tolerated by the Soviet system inspired from Moscow, or in the streets of Constantinople, where the Turk is still master, or in far-off lands of alien races—Syria, Greece, France, even South America and Australia—Armenians are alike being tempted to surrender their ancestral faith and adopt the ethical code of their non-Christian surroundings. The boys and girls of this race, saved from physical death by the heroic courage of themselves and their elders, and to a great extent also by the generosity of American gifts and service through the Near East Relief, must not now be allowed to fall victims to atheism and immorality. They need the Bible more than ever before. And the American Bible Society, which is God's providentially appointed almoner of his Word in Armenian and Armeno-Turkish, must follow the path of this national Diaspora wherever it has scattered and give to the children what alone can preserve them to the faith of their fathers.

From Mr. F. Lyman MacCallum has come this unusually interesting report of work in

CONSTANTINOPLE AND TURKEY

"The most hopeful event of the year 1926, from the point of view of Bible distribution in Turkey, was the establishment (at least in theory) of religious liberty throughout the Turkish Republic. This came into effect in October with the new Civil Code copied after that in Switzerland. For the first time since the founding of the Turkish Empire a Mohammedan who has attained the age of eighteen may now profess any faith he chooses without risking official punishment as a species of traitor if he abandons the religion of his fathers. So runs the law.

Religious Liberty Advancing

"In an incident of considerable significance, which took place immediately after the passage of the law, the government upheld this provision in the teeth of public excitement. If popular opinion still lags very far behind the enlightened provisions of this law, that is a matter which time and just administration will cure. Once the people are satisfied that, in changing his religion a man does not repudiate his country as well, liberty in such matters will be as complete here as anywhere. So in future years the American Bible Society may well look back to 1926 as having laid the cornerstone of its new work in Turkey.

"Although religious liberty has been proclaimed, religious propaganda is still, for reasons of public safety, rigorously prohibited. That is to say, an individual may adopt whatever religion he pleases, but he may not try to persuade any one else to follow the same course. It is a matter of thankfulness to all friends of the Bible Society that the selling of the Bible, although suspect, has not been definitely classed as religious propaganda. Bible sellers when arrested have been released after brief investigation. Again and again the Book has gone where no other gospel messenger could.

"In the coast cities the apparent decay of Mohammedanism before the impact of Western materialism continues apace. One suspects that the real decay has been going on for a long time and that the present change is merely one of public sentiment, which no longer demands the public observance of religious forms from those who do not believe in them. All religious observances, save the feasts and holidays, are being more and more disregarded. The new laws have deprived the Mohammedan priests of their useful civil functions and confined them strictly to their religious duties, at starvation wages. The result is that new candidates for the priesthood are said to be practically nonexistent. The future of Mohammedanism in Turkey seems very uncertain.

The Throes of a Great Religion

"These throes of a great religion can hardly be a matter for complacency to any sympathetic observer. One is often moved both for the older, devout Mohammedan, who has to watch the fabric of his beloved church rent and destroyed by ruthless forces from without and within, as well as for the younger generation, to most of whom religion means little more than an outworn and obstinate superstition.

"And all the while the answer to the special problems of both youth and age lies unknown or rejected on the shelves of the Bible House. Here is the crucial problem of the Bible Society's work in Turkey. The gospel can do as much for Turks as it does for men of other races. But how can we persuade Turks to reach out their hands for the Book? Their indifference and suspicion is to a large extent the natural result of what they have learned from seven centuries of contact with governments and nations which claim to be Christian. The healing of this ancient breach can only come about through long and patient efforts under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. But, surely, this great task is the duty of Christian men, whatever the cost, since the original separation was largely the result of fanaticism and treachery perpetrated in the name of Christ.

"The two remaining colporteurs of the Society have spent another year within the limits of Constantinople, as permits to travel are still refused to Armenian and Greek citizens. The search for satisfactory colporteurs not subject to these restrictions on travel has not yet succeeded.

The Power of Advertising

"And yet, thanks to the power of advertising, it has been possible to invite people in every city and town of Turkey to buy Scriptures. The Turkish daily papers have been set to work as colporteurs by means of a simple advertisement announcing that Bibles and Testaments are to be had from the Bible House at the following prices. Actual sales through this channel are not large; but by this means the Society is reaching individuals all over Asia Minor who could be reached in no other way.

"A less tangible, but probably more real, benefit secured by advertising is that by these notices thousands are familiarized with the idea that Bibles are being regularly and openly sold. Such familiarity is one of the best antidotes to hostility and suspicion. In thus giving the constituency of various newspapers at least the opportunity of buying Scriptures, the Bible Society feels that it is fulfilling some part of its duty toward those individuals.

"One interesting feature of this experiment is the correspondence which sometimes accompanies orders or follows a sale:

"'Books are what I like most in the world,' writes a workman from a little town on the Black Sea, 'and I have a deep respect for them; for in them I find new facts concerning other nations and reli-

gions. For a long time I have been trying to gather information about America, which is a world all by itself, a world in which are the sources of science and knowledge. Is it possible to know or to get into touch with American professors of philosophy and religion, or to obtain the photographs of some of them? I have hopes of visiting that land and of talking face to face with some of these great men. Would it be possible for a laboring man to go to such a far place?

Booksellers Help

"In addition to sales secured by advertising, there has been a small amount of distribution in the interior of Turkey through other channels. A bookseller in the city of Smyrna has kept Bibles on display, though these were almost exclusively Hebrew Scriptures for the use of Jewish school children. A Mohammedan bookseller in the city of Adana is asking to be appointed our agent for that district. Such matters may seem trifling to be included in an annual report, and yet as indications of renewing life they are encouraging.

"Through a friend on the staff of the (Mohammedan) theological faculty of the University of Stamboul the Bible Society Agent was given the opportunity of furnishing Bibles in useful languages for the students' reference library. Not only was the gift welcomed, but the suggestion was made that the members of the teaching staff would be glad to possess a copy of the Turkish Bible each. Such a request, coming from a quarter which one is accustomed to regard as the home of religious pride and exclusiveness, was most encouraging. A nicely bound Bible in Turkish or Arabic, each bearing the good wishes of the American Bible Society, is now the property of every professor in this the only Mohammedan school of higher religious instruction in Turkey.

The Koran in Turkish

"Friends in other lands may be interested in a few particulars regarding the translation of the Koran into Turkish. From earliest times the Mohammedan religious authorities have maintained that the translation of the Koran into any language other than Arabic would be sacrilege, as any translation would not only fail to reproduce the exact sense, but would actually give rise to implications differing from those of the sacred original. But, within the last three years, the Turkish Government lifted its ban on the publication of such a translation, with the result that despite ecclesiastical outcries three translations of the Koran into Turkish have been put on the market. It is reliably stated that some fourteen thousand copies of these Turkish Korans have been sold. Some Christian missionaries are finding the translated Koran a helpful ally. Turks who heard the sounding Arabic of the Koran without understanding anything of its meaning, imagined it to be charged with tremendous and mystic meanings. But in translation most of that ascribed grandeur disappears. It is sometimes sufficient to place a Koran and a Testament in the hands of a reader and leave him to draw his own conclusions.

"During 1926 two new fields received attention from Constantinople. One was the Soviet Republic of Armenia. For some years the importation of religious literature into Armenia has been prohibited with much the same zeal that the United States would employ against Bolshevik literature. But time is generally on the side of reason in such matters, and this year it became possible to release for distribution a small stock of Bibles which had been sent into Armenia previous to the Bolshevik régime. These Scriptures are being eagerly received. An attempt to supplement the stock from outside was unsuccessful, for reasons which could not have been foreseen.

The Levant Agency Serves Armenians in France

"The other new field to receive attention was France, whither some sixty thousand Armenians have migrated during the past four years. In the new land their economic condition was greatly improved, but the spiritual attitude of the majority was one of apathy or despair. After passing through tribulations such as perhaps no other nation has experienced in modern times, they found themselves aliens and exiles in a land which accepted their labor while denying all their religious and cultural traditions. There too few priests were for the most part men lacking the evangelical viewpoint, whose horizon of duty was bounded by the profits to be obtained from the administration of the sacraments. Lacking religious leaders and in bitterness of spirit, the people as a whole set their faces toward unbelief and materialism. Finally, the French Protestant missionary society, "L'Action Chrétienne en Orient," organized a small work among them under Armenian leadership. There developed an immediate demand for Bibles in Armenian and in Turkish printed in Armenian characters, both of which are issues of the American Bible Society. Under arrangements concluded by Dr. Boyd with the Société Evangélique de Genève, which is aiding this work in Marseilles and vicinity, the Armenians have been able to supply their needs from the Constantinople and Beirut depots. These Scriptures are circulated entirely by their own colporteurs and pastors. This work may well prove to be one of the most fruitful in which the Levant Agency has a part.

"In August the Rev. J. Oscar Boyd, D.D., who for five years has conducted the Arabic-Levant Agency at Cairo with notable results, assumed full charge of the Levant Agency. When he returns from furlough in America this field may hope to feel the great advantage of his experienced leadership.

"In September the Acting Secretary of the Agency was called to Paris, where he had the benefit of meeting and conferring with Dr. Haven and Mr. W. S. Strong, then newly in charge of the Arabic-Levant Agency. Following this valuable conference, he was able to visit Marseilles to obtain first-hand information regarding the Armenian work from its leaders. In returning to Constantinople he

passed through Bulgaria and spent two interesting and useful days with the Rev. M. N. Popoff, the Society's trusted sub-Agent at Sofia.

"In reading the history of missions one is struck by the tremendous spiritual forces which may be released by an apparently chance discovery of the Word of Light by some dimly groping spirit. When American missionaries began to adventure into the interior of Turkey a century ago, they found the seeds of evangelical Christianity already springing up in many places as a result of the earlier distribution of Armeno-Turkish New Testaments by the Russian Bible Society. So one hopes that those who come after us may have reason to be thankful for even the hesitant and experimental efforts of these days, when the foundations of the work of the Levant Agency in Turkey are to be laid anew.

"As this is being written, word comes from New York that the Versions Committee has given favorable consideration to the request for a new translation of the four Gospels into Turkish, a translation that will accord with current literary standards more closely than does the present version, which has stood almost unchanged for forty years. This generous decision will rejoice the hearts of all who long for a larger circulation of the Scriptures in Turkey. So the New Year commences big with promise and hope."

BULGARIA

The Rev. M. N. Popoff has given this survey of the work during 1926:

"In Bulgaria the year 1926 was marked by political tranquility, financial difficulty, and unusual religious and temperance activity. While the government succeeded in stabilizing the country internally, it was unable to ward off the financial troubles under which every part of the country is suffering and which has been a serious hindrance to Scripture distribution. On the other hand unusual activity, not only on the part of the Protestant denominations and of the country-wide temperance movement, but within the National (Orthodox) Church itself, has been most encouraging.

"The sales of Scriptures for the year were as follows:

	Bibles	Testaments	Parts	Total	Value
By colporteurs	944	2,078	3,471	6,493	\$1,605.91
By correspondents	312	443	685	1,440	561.96
By Sofia depository	641	923	5,049	6,613	1,090.55
Total	1,897	3,444	9,205	14,546	\$3,258.42
Donations	4	1	93	98	9.80
Total issues	1,901	3,445	9,298	14,644	\$3,268.22

"Of the colporteurs working on a basis of 75 per cent commission without stipulated salary Mr. D. Christoff has left the Society for evangelistic work. On the other hand, Mr. Philip Atanasoff, a post-office clerk, has given up his government position and taken up colportage solely because of his wish to bear the Word of God to

the people. He is working mostly in villages and rural towns. There continue to be only two salaried colporteurs, one of whom, on account of age, is unable to tour and confines his labors largely to the city of Philippopolis. The colporteurs have worked a total of 1,674 days and have traveled 8,965 miles. Owing to the expense and difficulty involved, there has not been much visiting of the more distant villages. The rural population has been reached mainly at the markets, fairs, and at the railway stations.

"Unusual opposition to our work has been shown by many priests, who have improved every opportunity to discourage people from buying the 'Protestant Bible,' telling them they now have a Bible of their own. There have been cases where they persuaded people to give up our Bibles and purchase the Synodal Bible instead. Many people excuse themselves from buying the Scriptures our colporteurs offer, on the ground that they intend to purchase the Synodal edition. As far as I know the Synodal Bible is not selling very rapidly. It is more expensive than ours and very bulky in the hand. According to competent authorities the style is better, but the translation less accurate, than that of the Bible Society versions.

"A serious obstacle to our sales has been the very small range of editions we have to offer. At present we have in Bulgarian only three varieties of Bibles and only one New Testament, the latter in a very inconvenient size.

Reports from Colporteurs

"Colporteur Spas Stephanoff reports that he met the great opposition from two classes of people—infidels and the devout Orthodox. The former always accuse God of being unable to rule his own creatures and put an end to the evils of the world. They deny that any good has come from the Word of God, and claim, on the contrary, that it has been the source of much evil. The second class of opposers are godly people who fear our Bible as a Protestant invention and regard the colporteur as a man who has turned against his country and his church in return for American gold.

"Colporteur Yanko Doycheff has done good work among the Jews, especially in their schools. Colporteur D. Christoff gathered boys and girls to whom he spoke on the importance of the Bible and the need for its wide circulation. They were so much interested that each of the children bought a copy. Among our customers there have been a number of university students.

"During the political troubles of recent years, a certain Angel Raycheff attempted to murder a politician. He actually fired a shot, but missed his victim. He was not discovered. A short time afterwards, however, he was converted, confessed his sin, was tried and condemned to eight years' imprisonment. He writes from prison, 'Your letter and the Testaments were received. The good they have done here cannot be expressed in words.'

“Prokopi Gurieff, a Russian refugee, writes, ‘I received the Bible and the Testaments. They came on Sunday. There were five men with me at the time; so I laid the Bible on the table and read to them from it. They were all very grateful.’ Another Russian writes, ‘I do sincerely thank you for the Bible. To me and to others it will be spiritual food, of which we are greatly in need.’

Bible Sunday

“Bible Sunday was observed by nearly all the Protestant churches. The preceding issue of the *Zornitza*, an influential religious weekly, was entirely a Bible number. To date twenty-three churches and four individuals have sent in contributions for the two Bible Societies. Nikola Yankeff, a painter, brought 100 levs for the Bible Society, saying, ‘In gratitude for the light I have received from the Bible.’

“The Sofia Congregational Church accompanies its contribution with the following request, ‘Please to express our feeling of gratitude to the Bible Societies, and repeat that we place the highest value on the influence which they have exerted for the spiritual awakening of our people.’

“In closing this report of the thirteenth year of my work in the Bible Society my eyes turn toward the future. I sincerely hope that it may be possible to add to the working force in Bulgaria at least two more devoted men, and so to undertake still more aggressive distribution of the Scriptures through Bulgaria.”

GREECE

Chief Colporteur Prodromos Tokatlidis writes of work in Greece:

“Our sales this year are much smaller than those of 1924 and 1925. One cause is that owing to territorial adjustments our most efficient colporteur was transferred to the service of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The increase in our selling prices, as a consequence of the depreciation of Greek currency, and the extended illness of one of our remaining colporteurs were other reasons for our less favorable showing.

“No change can be detected in the attitude of the people toward the Bible. Some love it, others oppose it with all their might, and most are indifferent. Among the Jews of Salonica a strong current of irreligion and immorality prevails; and yet even among these people there are some whom the Lord has called and chosen. I have met several young Jews who seem anxious to understand the gospel of Jesus. They have bought a number of New Testaments in Judeo-Spanish.

“Among the native Greeks and the refugee Armenians are quite a few who honor the Bible. To the latter we are obliged to give Scriptures at reduced prices, or even gratis, as they are poorer than the corresponding classes of other races.

“Many interesting facts struck me during the course of the year.

I should like specially to mention the case of a Jewish barber, who became greatly interested in the New Testament and was anxious to discuss it in his moments of leisure. The case of one or two refugee Greeks may also be mentioned. Without becoming Protestants, they have accepted the gospel with all their soul and have taught their families as well, who are all now leading Christian lives. May the Lord Jesus Christ bless this work for his kingdom."

Colporteurs Report

Colporteur Gregory Abajoghlu served as colporteur in Turkey for eighteen years, and is now entering his fourth year of service in Salonica. He writes:

"I am thankful to God that here in Macedonia there is a great deal of kindness shown to the colporteurs. I have even received help from the religious authorities in selling Scriptures. The Metropolitan of Cavalla himself bought a number of New Testaments for use in the night schools. During the greater part of 1926 I was able to work successfully. But in August, while away from home, I was taken sick with nervous prostration. This has left me very weak, but I have continued to work as before. I pray that the Lord may bless the Society and its friends during the year 1927."

Colporteur Petraki Soranidis, who works in the Komothene (Gumuldjina) district, writes:

"During the year I visited twenty-five towns and villages centering about Komothene. The native population of Greece has no great love for the Bible, and is in a backward condition spiritually. Reading the Gospel in an intelligible language is almost forbidden in the schools. For school use the New Testament, even in Ancient Greek, must be the edition authorized by the Greek Patriarchate some years ago. As this edition was exhausted several years since, some schools are obliged to purchase our unauthorized edition. Pupils who cannot understand the ancient text secretly buy the Modern Greek version to use as a key. Teachers who have come from Anatolia are not opposed to the Bible and both buy it for themselves and urge others to follow their example. But other teachers often misrepresent us, saying that our books are deficient, harmful, and forbidden.

Helpful Priests

"When the priests see me going about, they generally look at me with frowning faces. Very few of the priests salute me, and during the entire year only two of them have thanked me for distributing Bibles. One of these came up to me as I was displaying my books in a stall near the college at Cavalla. He said, 'I am very glad to see you going about selling Scriptures. The Bible Society does a very generous work, but you must also be generous. When a purchaser offers you less than your price, you must not refuse him. I would like to see the Bible in every house. I have urged the scholars to take and read the Bible. These Gospels cannot be deficient or spu-

rious. We cannot possibly thank the Bible Society sufficiently for its generosity. Not only does it give us the Book at a low price, but it takes pains to bring the Book to us, wherever we are.'

"In another town I entered a crowded coffeehouse where it happened that a priest was sitting. When he called me, I expected it was to treat me harshly or hold me up to ridicule. Instead he was very kind and bought a small New Testament. Then, turning to the crowd, he said, 'Buy these books and keep them in your homes.' Some one asked if these books were genuine, to which he replied that these books could not be defective or wrong, for no one can take a word out of the Gospel or add a word to it. He read aloud the last verses of the Book of Revelation, and after calling their attention to the threats in the passage he again urged the people to buy.

"Such occurrences are most encouraging. Our duty, however, is to work prayerfully, regardless of good words or bad. I firmly believe that in the end these people will be illumined by the light of the gospel. May the Lord visit with his Spirit our Society and its workers!"

SYRIA

Mr. S. Seropian reports as follows:

"As stated in my report of last year, we have fifteen stations for Bible distribution in Syria, Beirut being the headquarters and center for all. A new colporteur, Mr. Kaloust Hazarabedian, has been appointed for Beirut and the neighborhood. He visits all parts of the city, especially the markets, refugee camps, schools, orphanages and hospitals, and has thus far worked with remarkable success.

"Our work has this year been greatly helped by the publication of a Bible and a New Testament in the Turkish language, written in Armenian characters for use among Turkish-speaking Armenians. For some time our supply of these Armeno-Turkish Scriptures had been exhausted, and we had repeated demands for them from those of my countrymen whose vernacular is Turkish instead of Armenian. The order from headquarters to print the books in question was therefore greeted with much rejoicing. Of the Bible 4,000 copies were printed, and of the New Testament 5,000; but already the greater part of the Bibles have been sold, so that a new edition will need to be printed shortly. The British and Foreign Bible Society purchased a number of both books for use in its work.

"The distribution of Scriptures by the Levant Agency in Syria has reached the following figures distributed according to language:

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Modern Armenian	1,660	1,482	2,056	5,198
Ancient Armenian	25	71	5	101
Armeno-Turkish	2,161	569	506	3,236
Arabo-Turkish	50	24	70	144
Ancient Greek	45			45
Hebrew Arabic	31		14	45
Arabic		1	64	65
Total	3,972	2,147	2,715	8,834

"Dr. Boyd's invitation to the native evangelical churches of Syria to celebrate Bible Sunday was followed by an invitation which I sent to the Armenian evangelical churches. The response to my invitation is such that I rejoice to report it. An aggregate sum of \$105.50 has come in from the following Armenian evangelical churches and religious associations: Beirut City Church, Beirut Refugee Camp Church, Beirut Spiritual Brotherhood, Aleppo City Church, Aleppo Refugee Camp Church, Aleppo Spiritual Brotherhood; Alexandretta, Kessab, Kaladouran, Fartisli, Beylan, Damascus, Zahleh, and Tripoli Evangelical Churches.

"These contributions were given in recognition and appreciation of the Bible Society's work among the Armenians in Syria, and in remembrance of what was done by the Bible Society in the countries of their birth. The sum, though not important, is precious; for it is a proof of the feelings of the mass of the Armenian refugees in Syria toward the Bible and toward the Society that offers it to their people.

"I rejoice and thank the Lord that years and years of suffering, oppression, and attempts at extermination, as well as of misery which is far from reaching an end, have not extinguished faith in God and love to the Holy Bible in the hearts of my nation. Wherever an Armenian has succeeded in pitching a tent, he has managed to raise an altar to the Lord at the same place, and his efforts in that direction have never been on the decline. It is, however, unfortunate that lack of employment in Syria and the consequent intensity in the struggle for life has weakened the forces of the Armenians and raised obstacles to their buying the Scriptures to the extent they desire."

ARABIC LEVANT

The Arabic-Levant Agency was established in 1921. The territory which it serves includes Syria, Palestine, Arabia, Mesopotamia or Iraq, Egypt, and the Sudan. The workers in 1926 included 30 colporteurs and 11 correspondents, and 120,446 volumes were circulated. The circulation for the six years of the Agency totals 577,123 volumes. William S. Strong is Agency Secretary, 6A Sharia Nubar Pasha, Cairo, Egypt.



THE bulk of the year under report saw Dr. Boyd in charge. Naturally, therefore, the bulk of the work and plans for the year were under his supervision. But the completion of the year's work and its review fell to Mr. William S. Strong, who is now the Agency Secretary. Again, the readers of the report have the benefit of seeing the territory and work of the Agency freshly, through the eyes of one seeing them for the first time. The story of Setrac Agamian, the Persian convert, is striking indeed. But those who read will also have fresh conceptions of Syria, particularly of the possibilities to travel, commerce, and industry of new-old centers such as Aleppo; and the tribute paid to the kind of man who is carrying on the work in the Sudan helps to a conception of the quality of workers the Scriptures win. Not every field has the record of Egypt with its band of colporteurs who have averaged twenty-two years of service. One cannot but be arrested by such a fact as that reported of the lone Gospel now translated, printed and circulated in Shilluk, that it is the first and only piece of literature so far available in that language.

Although now at home on furlough, the Secretary of the Arabic-Levant Agency (who held that office during the first half of 1926) looks back across the seas to the field that became familiar during the five years of his incumbency, and introduces the "story of the year" in that Agency.

New Year's Day of 1926 found him in the southern Sudan, as already recounted in the last ANNUAL REPORT. The purpose of that visit has been sufficiently indicated, and it remains at this time only to add that the Shilluk Gospel of John was finally completed in May and sent to Duleib Hill, where it forms the first and only bit of

literature in this Nilotic or Sudanic tongue. Personal relations with the American missionaries, not only at the Duleib Hill station, but also farther up the Sobat River, having been thus happily established, it is hoped that the United Presbyterian missions to the Sudan and southwestern Abyssinia may feel the interest the American Bible Society has in their pioneer Bible work, and may always maintain an alliance between the two organizations in the good work of the Kingdom.

The long return journey down the Nile, which began at Malakal on the 18th of January, ended at Cairo on the 28th. One of the major consolations for the breakdown of our plan to go up the Sobat River was the gain of two weeks in the time of our return to Cairo. The annual reports of the two Levant Agencies, their auditing, and preparation of the statistics and story of the year 1925 were all awaiting our return. Besides, there lay just ahead the annual conference of our Egyptian colporteurs, which this time was to be held in Cairo.

A melancholy interest attaches to the address made by a missionary to that colporteurs' conference, February 9-12, 1926. The Rev. Ralph G. McGill, professor in the theological seminary of the United Presbyterian Mission in Cairo and an enthusiastic friend of our work and workers, very kindly consented to preach the sermon in Arabic which we arrange to have delivered each year as an inspirational feature of the gathering. None of those present can ever forget the earnestness, the winsomeness, and the spiritual insight with which Mr. McGill spoke on "The Preciousness of Christ," with I Peter 2:7 as his text, "Unto you who believe He is precious." A few short months after he had thus spoken for his Lord, Mr. McGill had laid down his life for others, being drowned at the mission's summer camp on the Mediterranean while saving the lives of American children in bathing. Mr. McGill accomplished a great deal of good in Egypt, apart from his professional and assigned duties, through encouragement of the Pocket Testament League. His students in the seminary and in the school for evangelists were being constantly urged by him to be distributors of the Word, and he himself set the example and gave generously to sustain the work.

Old Age Anxieties Mitigated

The anxieties of our colporteurs about their old age and the support of those dependent on them were relieved by the introduction at this time of a new system of insurance and saving. The extremely meager salaries which the Agency has been able to pay these devoted men, do not suffice for them to make any provision beyond the immediate present; and yet to them, more perhaps than to the less adventurous lives of their fellow Egyptians, come mishaps, proverbial "rainy days," and early aging in service. It is to be hoped that the measures now taken will help to set their minds free from these

pressing anxieties and permit them to do better work than ever.

The early spring was occupied in affairs of the Levant Agency, but before leaving the field for the year in America the Secretary visited both Syria and Palestine for the last time. At Beirut, it was a great satisfaction to draw up, in conference with the Rev. Mr. Scherer, of the Syria Mission, a plan of cooperation in colportage, on a mission-wide scale, between the Agency and that mission. As the new plan was not to go into effect till October 1st, its operation belongs to that part of this story which the new Secretary will tell. If this unified system of oversight throughout the Syrian field could only have been adopted earlier, we feel that the progress in Syria since the war years might have been commensurate with that in Egypt. At the same time we are glad to pay tribute to the faithfulness and skill of those who directed the local colportage of the separate stations, often with inadequate provision and in spite of other handicaps. Poor Syria never needed the Word of God more than to-day. Those who are seeking solutions for her problems apart from it are destined to further disappointment and disillusionment.

The hostilities between Druses and French affected not only the southern part of the Syrian field, but also the work in northern Palestine. Colportage from our Tiberias center has to be limited to Galilee; and there can be no large distribution of the Bible in a district so intensely prejudiced by fanaticism. Our brief visit to the Misses Ford at Tiberias showed these indomitable women laboring and praying on, and planning for the further sowing of the seed which is the Word, even while lamenting the losses and discouragements that war had brought.

At Jerusalem

The Bible Evangelistic Mission at Jerusalem had not, down to the time of our last visit, been able to secure an entirely satisfactory public salesroom to supplement the Bible reading in their mission building. We can rejoice, meanwhile, in the forward step which our British brethren are taking in the erection of a well-located Bible House for their center. No one, however, who knows Jerusalem or believes in its future can doubt that the public exposure for sale of Scriptures in all languages in as many places as possible is an advantage. Both of these Bible Societies may not only find scope for their work in and around Jerusalem, but may also rejoice at the large and growing sale of Scriptures by commercial houses, both American and Oriental, chiefly to tourists and pilgrims in search of souvenirs of their visit to Jerusalem. It was with regret that we had to concur in the judgment of those who knew the local conditions, and for reasons mentioned later in this report arrange the transfer of our efficient colporteur from Jerusalem to another field, at least for a time. His success in selling the Bible during his period of service here not only shows how far this area is from having reached the

"saturation-point," but also calls for earnest prayer that a successor or successors may be found to prosecute a work evidently so much needed.

Regretfully we said goodbye to our friends and associates in Cairo in May, when the time came to leave for America—a regret the more poignant because we were leaving this field, not simply for a furlough year, but finally. May we be permitted to end this last installment of our five-year story with a word of hearty thanks to all those—employees of the Society, missionaries and other friends, Eastern or Western—who by their cooperation have helped to set this new Agency on its feet, and have made the work of the Secretary and the residence in Cairo of himself and his family a joy? And may we extend to Mr. Strong and his family as they take up the Cairo work and life, a welcome and a godspeed?

Mr. W. S. Strong, who arrived on the field and took charge in October, here takes up the story for the year.

MR. STRONG'S REPORT

It is only three months ago since I arrived in Cairo to take charge of the Arabic-Levant Agency and thus, with the exception of a month's travel in Syria and Palestine, my time has not allowed me to visit all the other parts of my vast territory. It becomes, however, my duty to furnish the yearly report of the past year's work of the Agency. This could have been done very much better by my predecessor, whose facile pen has so well recorded its past five years' history. Under the circumstances this report must be narrowed down to a review of work done by some one else.

A Retrospect

It is by no means an unpleasant duty. Having in my possession all the records needed, and, from all that I have seen myself and learned from other sources, I find that Dr. Boyd, the first appointed Secretary of this Agency, has written his name deeply in its history. It is now for me to follow up the work so well begun and so pregnant with opportunities for further expansion, and build upon the foundation so well laid, an edifice of which the founder shall not be ashamed; and for this I pray that divine wisdom may be given me. When one considers the vast areas that had to be traversed and the amount of spade work that had to be done, the labor of these five years cannot be underestimated.

Dr. Boyd has been able to visit all the countries, from Abyssinia to Persia, and had thus first-hand knowledge of the conditions prevailing, and upon such experience gained and so well recorded, I am able to draw freely. The fruit of this work will be mine to reap, but in the years to come, when we have seen the unfolding of plans and the fruition of much hard thinking, we may be able to rejoice together.

The Year's Work

With what has been said above, it will be easily understood that, although the office was left without a Secretary for about six months, yet I found on my arrival here that the work had been well done, and that the local agent, Mr. Bakhit, had followed very minutely instructions given him; and thus it was easy for me to walk right in and take charge. The accountancy work, in charge of our very efficient accountant Mr. T. S. Cassapi at Beirut, was equally well cared for, and thus, as far as the ordinary routine work was concerned, I found everything in good working order.

There are, of course, many outstanding problems yet to be settled, and many more to come as we march forward; but these we will try to meet in the order they present themselves.

SYRIA

It was a great pleasure to me that, during the few months of the old year at my disposal, to be able to pay a month's visit to Syria and Palestine and there to get acquainted with our work,—which, in both countries, had been placed in very capable hands. The arrangements made were of a kind that met with my heartiest approval. I was able to visit all the principal centers of these two countries, and everywhere I met very enthusiastic workers, ready to cooperate with us in every way that can speed up the distribution of the Word of God. I am heart and soul with Dr. Boyd in putting stress upon the distribution of Gospel portions; for, as he so aptly puts it, "the buyers of portions to-day may be the buyers of Bibles and New Testaments to-morrow." In my survey of the real need in Syria, I became convinced that we should stress this point more and more. Hence, in my conversations with the many native pastors whom I had the privilege of meeting, and at the opportunities given me to address churches and meetings, I made this my principal theme; and also, that I believed that in every church there must be some Christians, who even at some sacrifice would offer to go forth among their friends with the Word of God and thus multiply means by which we seek to reach the non-Christian population.

The agreement made by Dr. Boyd, in connection with our Syrian work, by which the American Presbyterian Mission has appointed the Rev. Geo. H. Scherer to be the director of both their own distribution agencies of Christian literature and of all our colportage in Syria, is certainly a step in the right direction; and having agreed upon certain methods of which I in the past have had a great deal of experience with excellent results, I feel that we have taken a first good step toward a more systematic and thorough evangelistic program. The unifying of this work under a man whose heart and soul is in the work, is bound to spell success.

In my work in North China I did not ask for any more professional colporteurs; and I note that the India Church has taken the

same step, believing that "every mission worker is a colporteur." I would go further and ask that every Christian should be a colporteur. The time is not yet ripe in these countries for dispensing with the paid colporteur; but that is no reason why we should not press with all our might for the active cooperation of all Christians in this work.

Under our new arrangement, all colporteurs will be under Mr. Scherer's supervision and placed wherever the best work can be done, and under the very personal oversight by the missionary in charge of the nearest station to his work, where he will also have his church home and find the fellowship he needs. The work, being done within a reasonable distance from a mission station, will also mean that any tangible results from their labor can be followed up by that same mission.

In Latakia, Dr. R. E. Smith, American Reformed Presbyterian Church, has tried out a system of voluntary helpers and was very pleased with the work done in the mountain villages by a couple of young men, and hopes to do still more in this direction.

The Persian Shia convert, Setrac Agamian, who on account of severe persecution in Palestine was hindered in his work there and was moved to Latakia, has proved himself a valiant servant of the Lord, and Dr. Smith is very much pleased with his work. A letter just received from him tells a story common to all Moslem converts who go forth to proclaim their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. That short story is well-worth reading, as given in his own words:

"I am very sorry I could not meet you when you passed by Latakia, for I was then out, selling books. Therefore I am writing you a brief history of my life and work; for I am sure you would like to know about your workers.

"In the year 1916, I was taken as a prisoner of war to India by the English, for I was a Turkish officer. While I was in India, I accepted Christianity, and that by the help of an honest Armenian Christian, called by my present name Setrac. I was baptized and in the year 1924, when I was in Egypt, I was accepted as a colporteur and worked for seven months in Alexandria under the direction of Dr. Boyd, who sent me afterwards to Jerusalem, where I worked for two years going around in all the villages both selling and preaching the Word of my Saviour. The Moslems, hearing me speak of the love of Christ to mankind and understanding that I was originally a Moslem, thought of killing me. Therefore the Bible Society sent me to Latakia, Syria, where I am working now under the direction of Dr. Smith. Many thanks to my heavenly Father, who is caring for me and giving me success wherever I go. The first week I was here, I was almost killed by a Moslem, who made me think that he was going to buy a book, until he took me to a dark corner with the intention of killing me; but the Lord saved me. Last month I was in the region of Alexandretta, and there also the Lord opened a

good door for me to speak in the evenings to the Armenians who are in a place belonging to the Red Cross Company. About sixty-five persons were convicted and, repenting, asked to join the church. I was able also to sell 260 copies of the holy books, which were worth more than five liras gold. The Moslems there seem to like to hear the Word of God more than before, and many of the books were sold to them—I think about 150 copies. I close my letter, asking you to pray for me, that the Lord may open to me many doors.”

At Aleppo, I had a conference with the missionaries of the two American missions in that city as to how best to meet the spiritual needs of this great city, with a population of about 300,000 people, which is still growing and, owing to its favorable geographical position, is bound to become the most important city in Syria. From this city you can take your ticket to Paris via Constantinople, very soon right to Bagdad and the Persian Gulf, to Beirut, Jerusalem, Mecca, Egypt, Sudan, and, in fact, right to El Obeid in Kordofan. Turkey is anxious to facilitate transit and is doing her utmost to encourage travelers from Constantinople to Syria and is reducing to a minimum the trouble about passports and customs. This city with its Jews, Mohammedans, Armenians, Roman and Greek Catholics, in fact, people from almost every nation, is a most important field for our work and should be entered and made a great center for our Syrian activities. If we as a Bible Society are not able to open a Bible depot, the missionaries are very anxious to have a book and Bible depot opened, which, together with a good reading room, should prove a blessing to many. On this matter we took the initiary step, and when passing through Beirut arranged with Mr. Scherer to find out, on his next visit to that city, how far each of the interested parties are prepared to shoulder the financial part of the proposal. Personally, I would favor a purely Bible depot, as in that place for one no other Society has opened such a depot.

Syria, with its railways, its splendid roads, the opening up of the whole country to motor transport, which even the slow and easy going Oriental has not been slow in taking advantage of, making every nook of the country so easily and so quickly accessible to our workers, is calling loudly for the swift messenger of the gospel. Given modern means of locomotion, our workers should easily be able to multiply themselves manyfold; and some day, not far distant, we should be able to say “every town and village in Syria has been visited by the gospel messenger.” It is hard to have seen such a field, with all its opportunities and possibilities, and yet, for the want of means to carry out a comparatively easy program, to be satisfied with the present slow methods, getting one almost nowhere.

PALESTINE

The Bible Evangelistic Mission, in connection with our Bible depot in Jerusalem, in charge of Miss Laura Radford, has proved

its great value as a Bible center in that city. My visit to that city during last month convinced me that we have made a good beginning there and are ready for further expansion—which I trust we may venture upon during the coming year.

Miss Radford's report, given below, will be read with interest, and from my own observations while there, I am convinced that we shall see yet greater work done from this center during the coming year.

One colporteur has been in the field under Miss Radford's supervision. He is a very active worker and has done very faithful work in the face of many trials.

As in Syria we have a practically untouched field between the old Syrian east border and Euphrates, so in Palestine we have the Transjordanic region with opportunities awaiting the gospel messenger. I have made some temporary arrangements with some American missions working in that field, with hopes of some more in the near future.

Jerusalem Bible Depot

Miss Laura Radford reports:—

"Of the nearly 3,500 Bibles and portions that have passed through our Jerusalem Bible depot during 1926, the greater part was put into circulation through the efforts of our colporteur, who was saved ten years ago through reading the Bible while in a war prison camp in India. It may be of interest to recall where a few of these books have gone. One was bought by a Moslem sheik, that he might read it to refute the Christian teaching some of his people had received from the preaching of a visiting evangelist; another was bought by the head of a Bedouin tribe, and, although neither he nor any of his tribe can read, yet he wanted a Bible in the camp and has decided to send two of their boys to a mission station to learn to read. A New Testament was bought by a Wahabite, who hid it carefully in the folds of his belt, knowing well that if he is discovered reading it, he will be killed by his coreligionists. Another Testament was taken by a man in the gendarmerie; another by a man in the Transjordanian police force. He chose one with large print, so that his friend, the only man in their squad who can read, will be able to see to read at night by their little candlelight. One Bible was taken by a young man to his village, and a group of his friends gathered together daily to read it. But it was soon destroyed by the village sheik, yet not before his own son had become convinced about the truth of Jesus Christ and, a few weeks later, came in to Jerusalem to spend a day in Bible study and prayer in the mission.

"These few facts illustrate the story of the year's work. More than 120 towns and villages were visited by the colporteurs, and some of these had not had a visit from a colporteur for over ten years.

In only one place was the colporteur refused shelter for the night; but that night was cold and rainy, and his only shelter was to stand through the night in an old barn, the floor too wet to sit on and the roof so leaky that there was not a place to stand where the water did not drop on him. However, it was a shelter from the biting wind, and he came home praising God that he had a shelter from the cold wind. Praise God for the spirit of such men."

Tiberias

Never shall I forget my visit to this memorable little town. I came from Haifa by automobile, passing through Nazareth and arrived on the heights of the mountains overlooking the lake, about four in the afternoon. Up to that time the rain had not ceased coming down in torrents; but just then the clouds lifted, and the sun tipped the snowclad Hermon. The enchanting view of the lake below, still and like glass, was a sight never to be forgotten. Before we reached the town, it had all changed: the rain almost blotted out the lake from our sight. While at dinner in the only hotel where I managed to secure lodging,—and that a Jewish hostelry,—a storm broke out, and the lake changed into an angry mood; but at 8.30 the moon came out, and then again all was still, and the lake became silvery. I was loath indeed to leave my window, and it was after midnight when I sung my last praise to Galilee, where Jesus loved so much to be.

This city has also proved a very important center for our work. The two men employed under the supervision of Miss Ford have visited some 118 towns and villages, mostly during the first months of the year, as, later, roving bands of bandits infested the country, having been scattered by the French troops in their pursuit of the Druses. The colporteurs have distributed some 1,266 portions. But with peace in the north next year should see more steady work being done from this center.

Miss Ford's report gives a picture of the conditions of this field, which to me is of greatest importance with a view to further expansion not only in Galilee but on the east of the lake—a region for a long time practically closed owing to prevailing disturbances.

Our Northern Galilean Field

Miss M. T. Maxwell Ford sent us the following report:—

"This is the land of the tribes of old Naphtali and Asher. The district of Naphtali is very fine. There are mountains and plains with good springs and a delightful climate. The people now living there are Maronites, a nominal Christian people under the Pope of Rome, exceedingly bigoted and ignorant spiritually (the hardest to reach in this land); also some Druses, Moslems, and Mataweleh (a sect of Moslems), other nominal Christians and Bedouin Arabs living in tents. The Maronites are under priests, who have a malignant

hatred for Protestants and the Bible, which they curse. The Bibles they order burned. But there is a growing independence among the people to accept the Gospels and buy Bibles. There is no small money in circulation among the people of many villages, nothing less than the half-piaster ($2\frac{1}{2}$ cents) or the piaster; no milliemes ($1/10$ piaster) for change. This is a great hindrance to our men in book-selling. Many men and boys can now read. Large number of people, i.e., groups in different places, will gather round the colporteurs and listen to them as they read the Scriptures. They will sit on the ground and listen for hours. They will be invited to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour. This work our young men do faithfully, and is very interesting work. They have visited during this year 1926, 118 towns and villages in Galilee, principally during the first months of the year; some very remote and unknown places. Later they were interfered with by roving bands of bandits. Many settlements have been visited several times during the year. The colporteurs have often been turned or driven out on entering a village, and not even given a sleeping place. They could not even buy bread; the people would not even come near them, fearing pollution. During the year 1926, hatred and war feeling have been strong and bitter against Christians; Moslems and Mataweleh sympathizing with the Druses and helping them in their rebellion against the French. We are just starting a school among the Mataweleh people at their own request. They are eager to have their children taught. There is only one man who can read in the place. There also they have listened by the hour to the Word of God read to them, men, women and children gathering to hear (this among Moslems). Also in a Maronite village, now deserted by priests, the whole community assembled to hear chapters from the New Testament. They say that the Lord Jesus is not the Lord, but the son of the Virgin. They know nothing more, but are learning better now. They are a humble, simple people, not having now a priest among them. God is working in their hearts. The colporteurs have sold, but chiefly given, among them some 1,266 portions of the Gospels; but only 12 whole Bibles were sold.

"Around the Sea of Galilee to the north and northwest, about 2,500 Arabs (Bedouins) live in tents. We hope to reach many of them during the coming year. We will appreciate very greatly material and spiritual help for this region. Two summers ago, I sent two young men for a three days' stay in their tents to work among them. It was intensely hot, and they had to sleep out of doors. Twenty-five Arabs, young and old men, stood up and said that they believed in the Lord Jesus Christ. Since then no one has been able to visit them."

As it will be noticed from the report, the Scripture portions have been mostly given away, the main reason for this being that the country people have so very few small coins. It is, of course, a great

hindrance as far as bookselling is concerned. I understand, however, that this is to be remedied at a very early date, when there will be a purely Palestine currency.

Mesopotamia and the Persian Gulf

Our Society has for many years given a subvention of \$500 annually to the Arabian Mission of the Reformed Church in Armenia on the Persian Gulf. This was once a far-off field, but cannot be called so in these days. On the whole distance from Constantinople to Bagdad, there is only a gap of about 400 miles of the railroad to be constructed, and this year's budget in Iraq provides for half of that, and the Turkish Government is equally anxious to have this through line completed. The line from Bagdad to the head of the Persian Gulf is also under construction, and I was told that it will not be long before the railroads are at Kuweit, the northern port of the Gulf. From today it will only take one day from Cairo to Bagdad by the new commercial air line, and will only be a question of some hours from Bagdad to Kuweit; hence my field is shrinking considerably, and it will be easy to make flying surveys.

"Still the Bible Is a Much Better Seller than Controversial Literature"

This is the keynote of the report sent in by the Rev. G. D. Van Peursem, of the Arabian Mission, of work done on the Persian Gulf. He records the sale of Scriptures in six languages, a total of 15 Bibles, 37 New Testaments, and 553 portions. Several colporteurs are engaged, partly paid by our Society. He writes as follows:—

"As you are aware, the three stations, Muscat, Bahrein and Kuweit, are receiving support from the American Bible Society. This year as in former years, colporteur work has been faithfully carried on. In each of these stations we have a central bookshop, where the Bible is the main consideration. The colporteurs are Armenian or Syrian and for most part have been very faithful. Once or twice a week they leave the shop to work the bazaars, and get better acquainted with the people of the town.

"It is interesting to note that in the stations where Arabs are not yet in the habit of sending for papers for themselves, our sales are more. For that reason the sales in Bahrein are fewer than they were many years ago, and the bookshop does not fill such a need as at first when the mission was first established. In Muscat and Kuweit, our bookshops still attract people, and they know that the Bible Shop is a good place to get news and to get the truth of political rumors.

"Although most of the Arabs have seen a Bible at one time or another, and many of them do not want a Bible in the house, still the Bible is a much better seller than controversial literature. The Arabs know well that the Torat and the Injil are mentioned in the Koran as the Word of Allah. And thus no one can rightfully blame

an Arab for reading it. On this ground we have sold many Gospels in the interior of Oman last year.

"We can certainly say that the support we receive from the Society is appreciated. And we can also say that the money is used to spread the Word in parts where it is not known in Arabia. With thankfulness in our hearts for the past, we hope that the support will continue in the future. We will also do our best to use gifts for the advancement of God's kingdom in Arabia. We might further say that our colporteurs are only partly paid by the American Bible Society, since we appropriate money for the balance of their support."

SUDAN

Our field in Sudan, as delineated by Dr. Boyd after his visit there in 1923, is still a field that calls for pioneers. We regret that we have only been able to have one colporteur in that field for the year. This field includes Kassala, Fung, White Nile, and Kordofan, all south of Khartum. In reading over the names of places which he has visited, we find that he has been to Kassala, situated on the east border of that province, and to El Nahud not far from the west border of Kordofan, a distance of nearly 500 miles. If readers should be interested in the geography of that part of this country, let them locate on the map such places as Kassala, Singa, Wad Medani, El Nahub, and the provinces where these towns are situated, and by doing so, try to estimate the kind of man that is needed for pioneering work as a gospel messenger in that area and among a population that is 100 per cent Moslems; add to that the climate of South Sudan and the local means of transport, and I believe the total would require a physical and spiritual giant.

I have not the pleasure of knowing this fellow-worker personally, but I know that for twenty years he has proved himself a man full of faith and works. During the last year he has traveled some 5,000 miles and visited and revisited about 90 towns and villages, and has sold 152 Bibles, 51 Testaments, and 1,111 Scripture portions.

EGYPT

In reviewing the work done in Egypt, as I have learned to know it mostly from inquiries, having as yet not had the opportunity of visiting the field myself, I find that, with the fine group of colporteurs in our employ, the work is being well done, and that the management of these men in their distant fields is a great credit to Mikhail Effendi Bakhit, who now for about sixteen years has been in charge of these colporteurs working our very extensive share of Egypt and Sudan. The whole group seems to be one big family, doing their utmost to maintain the closest harmony and fellowship, and in their communication with Mikhail Effendi and in letters received by me personally, they all express their whole-hearted love for their work and a determination that, at all cost, they will bring

the message of salvation to all needy souls in their respective districts. Another factor that cannot be underestimated is, that they are all, with but three exceptions, experts at their work. Fourteen out of eighteen men have served the Society to our greatest satisfaction for an average of twenty-two years each. With such an experience, they know well how to approach their fellowmen with the Word of Life. It is not only the results as shown by their combined sales that tell of their work, but, perhaps, more so by their lives lived among a people so hostile to their message. For such men we may well praise God.

During the year, these men have spent 6,835 days in service, traveled 29,395 miles, and have visited 1,230 towns and villages, many of which have been revisited from time to time. It is a pleasure to be able to record a substantial increase in sales over last year, which have reached a total of 63,393 copies, compared with last year's record of 62,002 copies for thirteen months.

Mr. Bakhit writes as follows:

"In telling the story of 1926, I wish to thank God for his continued faithfulness and blessings to us during the year. I also wish to express appreciation for the patient help of the Agency Secretary, Dr. J. Oscar Boyd, in ever seeking to enter into, and assist in, the solving of the many things and problems that come before us in this Agency, and we very much regret his departure from us. But, we thank God for sending us the new Secretary, the man of experience and business. We also desire to bear testimony to the faithful and loyal support of our assistants in the office and the workers in the field, and to these latter we cannot give too much praise. In spite of wind and all kinds of weather they have traveled far and wide, meeting everywhere with unkind rebuffs and ugly words; yet they have kept at their task day after day, in city and country, mountain and valley, going forth with the Bread of Life to hungry souls.

"This is the first year during which the colporteurs have covered all the territory for which we are responsible along the Nile, with the exception of the Oasis of Khargeh and Dakhleh, which region is situated some eighty miles west of the province of Assiout. Our colporteurs, for many years in our service, have become well known through their districts as a modest, self-denying, and important band of Christian workers—men of faith, conscious of responsibility, aware of being most of the time under popular inspection and subject to popular judgment. They are often invited to preach in churches and lead prayer meetings and give spiritual help to the many groping along life's pathway."

Each and all of these have their stories to tell, which, if all published, would not only be an interesting but also a helpful study to all who are trying to find out how best to approach various classes of people with the Word of God. We have culled the following from their letters:

Great Desire for the Bible

Our Fayum colporteur writes: "I have seen this year a great desire for the Bible in my district. Some Moslems who had read the Bible bought a large number of Gospel portions to give away to their friends who wished to read them, and to others who were too poor to buy any. The wish of some of the poor people to buy the Scriptures was so great that they used their bread money to purchase the books. In my district I sold 5,300 copies of Scripture."

Our Beni Suaf colporteur reports how he used to visit incoming and outgoing trains, when he was able to sell a good number of books, but, when a new station master was appointed, he was forbidden to do so. It was, however, explained to the official that this man was selling Scriptures; that he was a man of peace doing God's work, and it all ended in allowing our man to do his work unhindered. This man also speaks of how the cotton crises had interfered with his sales, and how in the face of that the people in one district were determined to get the books at all cost.

One man writes: "Great interest has been shown in the Book in many places where I have gone. Mohammedans have shown sympathy and respect. All classes have treated me courteously."

Another man writes: "I have been in the habit of collecting money for the Bible Sunday from individuals, but this year has been a very hard year owing to the low price of cotton. I met one man who used to give me fifty piasters yearly; but now he was very poor and said that he had only one pound left; however, having made a vow to God to serve him, he was ready to give all to the colporteur for Bible work. The colporteur would not accept it, but the man declared that he must fulfill his vow, and made the colporteur take half of the pound." This man collected 20 pounds for the Bible Sunday. He deserves to be made a Life Member.

Ahu Korkas is the son of a colporteur who was with us for thirty-two years. When the father resigned, his son took his place and has proved himself worthy of his father. His sales this year reached 10,546 copies. In one place some Christians bought 3,000 copies to give to the poor people who could not afford to buy. But what pleased our friend most, was that a Moslem teacher bought 300 copies for the boys in his school.

One colporteur was asked to preach to a company of Moslems, and after the service was able to sell quite a number of portions to them, all anxious to know more of the Injil (New Testament). Practically all the colporteurs record the fact that the Moslems are more and more ready to read the Gospels. Also that, although the sheiks forbid them to read the Old Testament, the people are aware of the fact that the Koran speaks of the Old Testament and that they have a right to read this book sold by the Christian colporteur, and those bold enough defy the sheik in this respect.

Translation

We are able to record under this heading the publication of the revised version of St. John in the Shilluk tongue of the Sudan, and thus these people will have at least one Gospel in their own language; this, thanks to the missionaries who go to preach the gospel among people who have no means of expressing themselves in writing. In such cases the missionaries have first to learn their language by the most primitive method of living in their midst, and when the language is acquired to reduce it into writing. Once provided with a written vocabulary they translate the Scriptures into that language and finally teach the natives to read it. A vast number of tribes are still waiting for the blessing of having the Word of God translated into their, as yet, unwritten language.

Publications

The total for this year is about the same as last year, being: Bibles 4,393, New Testaments 7,150, and portions 110,433; a total of 121,976 volumes of the Scripture for the twelve-month period, as compared with the figures for 1925, Bibles 4,439, New Testaments 9,270, and portions 121,336; a total of 135,045 volumes for thirteen months, bringing the total of Arabic Scriptures manufactured for this Agency during the first five years up to: Bibles 19,805, New Testaments 32,271, and portions 484,416; a total of 536,492 volumes of the Scripture.

Bound Books Account

ADDITIONS				
	Bibles	Testaments	Parts	Total
Manufactured by the Agency....	4,393	7,150	110,433	121,976
Purchased by the Agency.....	2,854	1,625	3,309	7,788
Received from the Levant Agency	513	225		738
Miscellaneous	30			30
Total	7,790	9,000	113,742	130,532
ISSUES				
Sales:	Bibles	Testaments	Parts	Total
To British and Foreign B. S....	1,775	3,703	58,900	64,378
By depositories	298	197	1,125	1,620
By correspondents	740	568	4,791	6,099
By colporteurs	2,926	3,279	51,061	57,266
Total sales	5,739	7,747	115,877	129,363
Donations	1,247	358	3,215	4,820
Sent to Headquarters, N. Y.	155	75	2,200	2,430
Miscellaneous		32	297	329
Total	7,141	8,212	121,589	136,942

Geographical Classifications of Issues

Egypt and Sudan	4,238	3,730	55,025	62,993
Sudan (Shilluk Tribe)			200	200
Syria	844	623	4,349	5,816
Palestine	123	65	885	1,073
United States	159	76	2,200	2,435
Germany		9		9
Brazil	2	6	30	38
Total distribution by countries	5,366	4,509	62,689	72,564
To British and Foreign B. S.				
as above	1,775	3,703	58,900	64,378
Total issues	7,141	8,212	121,589	136,942

It will be noticed that the British and Foreign Bible Society has this year absorbed one-half of the total issues of our Beirut publications.

Distribution by Languages

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Albanian		6		6
Amharic	1			1
Arabic	6,370	7,499	120,206	134,075
Arabic for the Blind			209	209
Armenian, Modern	245	68	39	352
Armenian, Ancient	8	14		22
Bulgarian		2		2
Carshuni		5		5
Dutch	1	1		2
English	135	136	175	446
Ethiopic		2		2
French	54	110	79	243
German	7	8	3	18
Greek, Modern	41	181	88	310
Greek, Ancient	4	20		24
Hebrew	53	30	343	426
Hungarian	2			2
Italian	4	3	12	19
Jolaf			1	1
Latin		1		1
Nubian			1	1
Persian	15	20		35
Polish		2		2
Portuguese	1	1		2
Russian	1			1
Servian		1		1
Shilluk			400	400
Spanish	5	1		6
Syriac, Modern		1		1
Turkish, Arabian Characters	6	10	31	47
Turkish, Armenian Characters	186	89	2	277
Turkish, Greek Characters	2	1		3
Total	7,141	8,212	121,589	136,942

Total Circulation of the Arabic Agency

For 1922-1925	24,061	35,188	351,177	410,426
For 1926	7,141	8,180	121,292	136,613
Total circulation	31,202	43,368	472,469	547,039

(NOTE:—The figures given at the head of last year's report as the circulation for the first five years include 30,084 copies sold in Egypt in 1921.)

Conclusion

The three months at my disposal, since my arrival in Cairo, have been mainly occupied in studying the conditions of this vast field with a view of making the utmost of the resources at our disposal, and so try to make out a program for the coming year, that shall, as far as we are able, cover our whole field. We have, of course, very specially in mind the large non-Christian population scattered over these countries—masses not easily reached; and hence, if methods of the past have not brought forth the desired results, new methods must be tried.

Although new to these countries, my thirty-four years in China having given me a fairly long experience among Orientals,—whom by the way I find very much akin all the way from Cairo to Yokohama,—I will try here such methods as worked so well in China and with very marked success. There may be a very wide psycho-

logical gap between Mohammedanism and more eastern faiths, yet hearts at the bottom are very much alike; certainly their spiritual needs are all one, and one that can only be satisfied by the acceptance of the living message of salvation.

Each of these countries under this Agency has its own problems, to which due regard must be given in our planning. Conditions, however, in this age of the making of national histories are ever changing, and men's minds—be they Moslems, Syrians, Arabs or Armenians—are opening up to new vistas, coming into view one after another, occasioned more often by rapid transit, bringing nations together and forcing them to mingle with nations and races with which, but a few years ago, they absolutely refused to have anything at all to do. A new civilization is fighting its way into the minds of a people who in the past were determined to fight for their isolation in the desert and were quite satisfied to live their lives without any interference from without. The desert, the tent, the camel, the barter for the few extra things they desired, had been enough for their ancestors, and they asked for no more. But it was not to be. The great war spoke loudly to them, and they were aroused from their desert lethargy; automobiles found their way to their most desolate tents, and missionaries are finding to-day nations and races of people with an entirely changed outlook on the world in general, with the why and the wherefore uppermost in their minds. Such conditions have produced new fields, ready for the sowing of the Good Seed, that shall produce the best of harvest. To such receptive minds we are trying to apply ourselves with all the power and resources at our disposal. That during this transitional period of minds there may be no lack of either the seed or the sower may well be the earnest prayer of all interested in scattering the Living Word. Inquiring minds will seek answers, but, if not answered to their entire satisfaction, men's minds will drift into a state of indifference to spiritual things, and that once fertile field will be changed into stony ground.

The Political Outlook

One's work depends a great deal upon the political conditions of a country, and one is therefore thankful to know that all these countries are at present enjoying peace. As far as one can see, there is at present not a cloud in the political horizon, and thus no obstacle whatsoever to hinder us pressing on with all forces. The conditions seem specially conducive to a coming year of progress. After many years in the war, famine and flood stricken country of China, and especially so during the last few years when Peking has been the real war center, taken and retaken from time to time, with all the political strife between parties and intriguing politicians, it is pleasant indeed to be in a country where to all outward appearance peace reigns supreme.

ASIA

The Society has two Agencies on the continent of Asia—those in China and Siam—and Agencies on the Islands of Japan and the Philippines. It has correspondents also in India.



BEYOND its primary responsibilities and great work in its Foreign Agencies in Asia, the Society rendered some aid to the circulation of the Scriptures on this continent, as in the past, by donations to American missions in India during the year under review. In both of the South India missions to which help was sent, there was a change of supervision as a result of furloughs. In consequence, the reports are somewhat meager.

The Rev. Henry J. Scudder, on behalf of the Arcot Mission of the Reformed Church in America, wrote on the eve of his furlough:

It is a great pleasure to report that there has been an encouraging increase in the number of Scripture portions sold amounting to 1,118, which is over one-third more than in 1925. I attach the detailed statistics for your information. The total Scriptures given and sold add up to 4,317.

We are pressing Scripture sales still more vigorously this year, and I have suggested plans, which, if carried out, ought to result in a considerable increase of sales beyond the figures for 1926. Efforts are being made to get our teacher-catechists and mission workers, together with village Christians, to spend at least an hour at weekly markets which they attend regularly, in preaching and Scripture distribution.

In view of our progressive plans I request and sincerely hope that the American Bible Society will be glad to give us a grant this year of \$200 to help along in this important work.

On behalf of the Madura Mission of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, the Rev. E. E. White, who had just taken over supervision of this correspondence, reports:

According to the rules governing the use of this fund, this money is to be used first of all to circulate Scriptures among the Hindus. The rules were followed for 1926.

It may interest you to know that my work takes me among both

non-Christian and Christians, but that my time is mainly given to the latter. Many of our Christians are actually too poor to be able to afford Bibles at the rock-bottom price of 10 cents each! So, we have had urgent requests to supply such persons with Bibles at half-price, and I am hoping to do so this year, if I can raise some special funds for the purpose. Whenever I go on tour, I take with me Bibles, Testaments and hymn books and usually dispose of them among either Hindus or Christians. We find it more useful to sell or give Hindus the New Testament and to Christians the whole Bible.

No word has come from the Ceylon Mission of the American Board.



PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

This Agency was established in 1899. It covers work throughout the whole archipelago, which embraces about three thousand islands, with a total area of 127,000 square miles and a population of 9,000,000. The total circulation for 1926 was 118,764 volumes. The whole circulation since the establishment of the Agency is 2,376,436 volumes. During the year 9 colporteurs, 177 correspondents, and 30 volunteers participated in the circulation of the Scriptures. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. G. Bruce Cameron, Bible House, Manila, P. I.



O small thanks are due to the Rev. A. K. Spielberger, who has been supervising the work of this Agency during the absence on furlough of its Secretary; and something of what has been involved may be learned from perusing the report from him which follows the introductory words of Mr. Cameron. It also shows how the fundamental work of Scripture distribution grips the imagination and wins the zealous endeavors of those who have opportunity to share in it. The recommendations which are offered as the result of the experience of the year, like many other forward looking plans, must, in some measure, depend on resources which the friends of the Bible make available.

The first three months of the year 1926 before going on furlough consisted largely in preparations for departure. Attention was chiefly given to the training of the staff to "carry on" in my absence, and to the guiding of the office secretary, Mrs. Cintron, engaged for the purpose of managing the details of the organization. The Rev. A. K. Spielberger, of the Presbyterian Mission, kindly consented to look after the finances for us and to give general supervision of the work in connection with his own duties in the seminary.

Of course, the routine work of the Agency was carried on during these few months as usual as regards colportage, publication activity, including translation and emergency platemaking, together with the various other functions connected with Bible distribution and publication.

Heavy paper stocks were received in the early part of the year and dragged on for several months after departure, making necessary certain curtailments, especially in colportage (our heaviest expense). Such an accumulation of stock occurs but seldom, and in this instance could not be avoided. However, considerable money was

saved by the purchase, which will accrue to the advantage of our activities later.

The earthquake emergency program could not be completed before leaving, so that much had to be turned over to the care of Mr. Spielberger, — especially the finishing of the Bicol Bible, the final settings of the Ilocano Bible, the revision work on the Tagalog New Testament, and the replating of many Tagalog Old Testament plates due to faulty work in our first attempts at plating; there was also the trimming of thousands of plates already cast. A large publishing program was still to be carried out from recently finished plates and from linotype metal not yet ready to be plated.

All this would mean a heavy responsibility for Mr. Spielberger and Mrs. Cintron. Mr. Spielberger would be already burdened with his own missionary work, and would probably find it difficult to handle both ends. However, it has ever been the fate of missionaries, and especially those in a secretarial capacity, to leave their work to be taken up by one having his own responsibilities to look after. In this case we feel we have been exceptionally blessed, as Mr. Spielberger approached the task with an unusual interest. We trust the double burden has not been too much for him, and we are exceedingly grateful to him and to Mrs. Cintron for attempting to carry on with the work. We do not wish to fail to extend our gratitude to the Presbyterian Mission for permitting Mr. Spielberger to be so heavily overburdened.

At the time of writing, we have completed our year's furlough and are ready and anxious to return to the work. The year has, we feel, been profitably spent, and both Mrs. Cameron and myself, together with the children, are in better health than we have been in several years. We both feel we have been lifted out of ruts and been given wider visions for the work, so that we approach the task again from new angles and with even loftier inspirations.

REV. A. K. SPIELBERGER'S REPORT

The story of the work of the American Bible Society in the Philippine Islands for the year 1926 will at best be an amateur's attempt. As I turn to the report of 1925, I see that the outstanding feature of it was "Approaching Normal." If I were to give a key word for the activities of the year 1926, I would probably find none better than "Keep Going."

Very early in the year, the Rev. G. B. Cameron and family left for America on their first furlough. The big task of restoring the loss suffered by the Japanese earthquake had not been fully completed, though Mr. Cameron had made a heroic attempt to have all that work out of the way before he left; and he certainly deserves most honorable mention for the work he did and the results he accomplished under the tremendous handicap and odds which that catastrophe produced.

The personnel which Mr. Cameron left has been maintained with but few exceptions; and as far as we know, they have done their work faithfully and very satisfactorily, and have tried to carry out the policy of Mr. Cameron.

Because of lack of funds, it was necessary to reduce the colporteur personnel, and some of the men whose services had to be discontinued very graciously stepped out for a while and found other work. Toward the latter part of the year, we were able to call back some of these men, and they are now in the field doing their best to distribute the Word of God.

The activities of the translators and revisors have not been as great in this past year as in former years. The Tagalog New Testament is still in the process of revision. The Rev. Leslie Wolfe and his committee have done very excellent work. Circumstances made it necessary to ask the committee to discontinue their work for a time and turn in such manuscripts as they had. Up to this time, the four Gospels are completed; and, as soon as conditions permit, this committee will continue their work.

Mrs. Jean R. Hall has very faithfully labored upon the Samareño translation and revision of the New Testament. It is hoped that during this year the revised Gospels and Acts may be printed, and that a good start may be had on the complete translation of the New Testament. This is very much needed, since mission work on the island of Samar has now been opened by the Presbyterian Mission, and there is a constant and great demand for the Bible in the Samareño dialect.

The Ilocano New Testament was completed during this year and is now being printed. It is hoped that before long we will have the complete revised edition of the Ilocano Bible, as the demand for this dialect Bible has been so great that it is a pity we could not supply them. Hardly a week passes but what we have calls for the Ilocano Bible.

We have also had the great joy of seeing the Bicol New Testament revision completed. On the day before Christmas, we shipped the first lot of fifty Bibles into the Bicol region, and I am sure the Rev. Kenneth P. MacDonald, who for the last two years has been so faithful and zealous in the revision work, rejoiced with us in this accomplishment. We hope that the Bicol region will respond to the efforts and buy this splendid new edition.

Sales and Issues—1925

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
First half-year:				
Depository sales	501	271	2,019	2,791
Correspondents' sales	1,904	162	16,226	18,292
Colporteurs' sales	809	2,742	7,520	11,071
Donations	2	10	18,260	18,272
To Headquarters		1		1
	<u>3,216</u>	<u>3,186</u>	<u>44,025</u>	<u>50,427</u>

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Second half-year:				
Depository sales	415	523	2,741	3,679
Correspondents' sales	2,515	3,844	17,523	23,882
Colporteurs' sales	1,962	5,800	32,698	40,460
Donations	79	217	6,204	6,500
To Headquarters	8	18	500	526
Losses in transit	9	10		19
	4,988	10,412	59,666	75,066
Total for the year	8,204	13,598	103,691	125,493

Sales and Issues—1926

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
First half-year:				
Depository sales	539	1,391	3,437	5,367
Correspondents' sales	3,559	6,038	30,061	39,658
Colporteurs' sales	1,210	4,945	27,770	33,925
Donations	25	207	1,080	1,312
To Headquarters	3	42		45
Losses in transit		3	23	26
	5,336	12,626	62,371	80,333
Second half-year:				
Depository sales	210	566	4,750	5,526
Correspondents' sales	1,415	3,858	15,976	21,249
Colporteurs' sales	658	2,503	7,628	10,789
Donations	19	5	601	625
To Headquarters	143	100	21	264
	2,445	7,032	28,976	38,453
Total for the year	7,781	19,658	91,347	118,786

In comparing the sales and issues of the past year with those of 1925, we find that we have fallen short 6,707 volumes. Our donations this past year were 625 volumes as compared to 6,500 the previous year. So that, if we compare the sales exclusive of donations, we find that we are only 832 volumes behind last year's record. When we take into consideration that we had to stop practically all of our colportage work for half of the year, we are grateful for this splendid showing; and, with conditions returning to normalcy, the coming year promises great results in the field of distribution of Scriptures. Already a good start has been made; and, with the return of the regular Agency Secretary full of vim, the American Bible Society in the Philippines should have an excellent year.

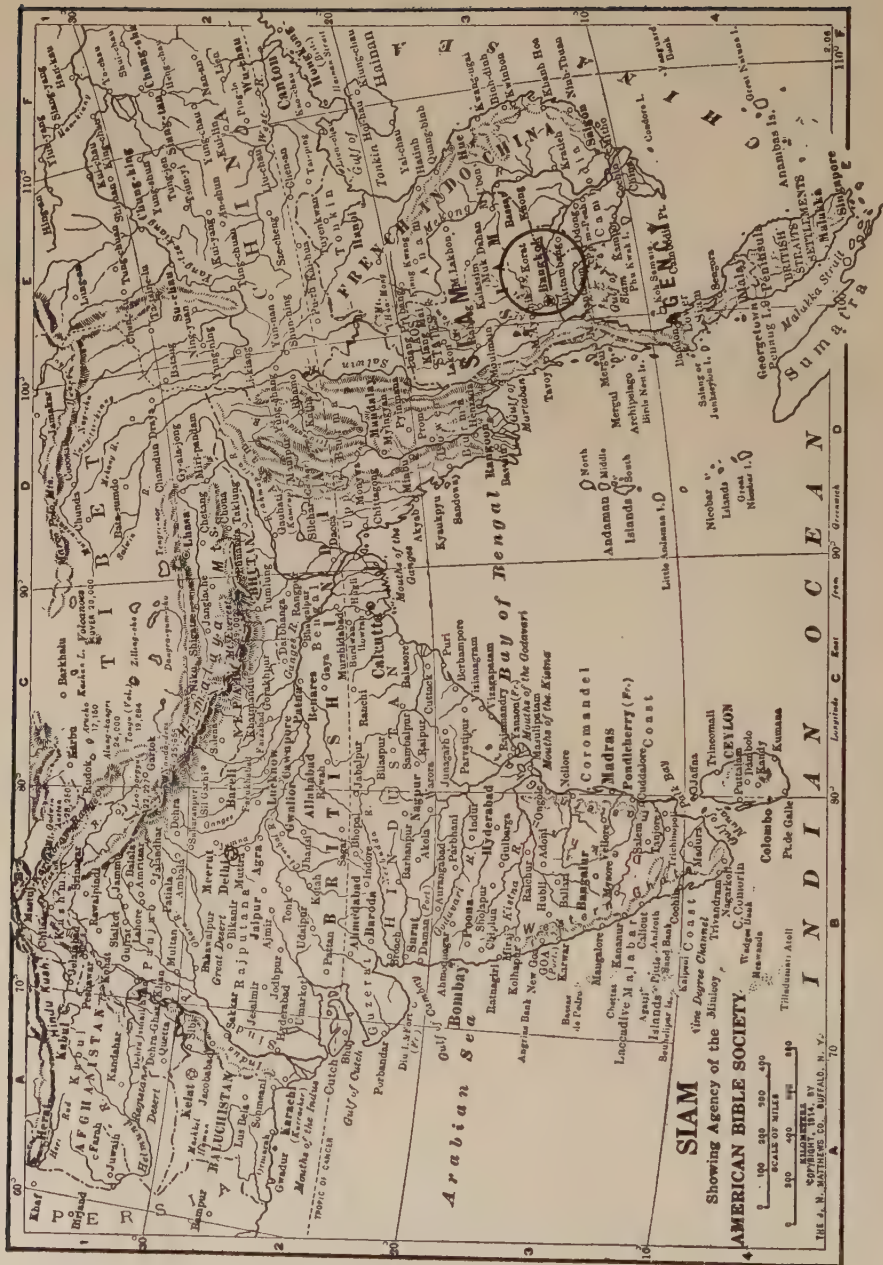
The publishing program for this coming year should meet with very few difficulties, since we have in our vault at the present time twenty-one complete sets of stereotype plates from which printing can be done at any time; and before very long two or three other sets will be completed. One or two sets are being held in linotype metal, from which printing may be done, if required. So that this coming year promises to be a great year for the production of Scriptures and their distribution.

There are two recommendations which might be made at this time, the carrying out of which would greatly facilitate the distribution of the Scriptures. The first of these is, that some central downtown location should be selected for a small but attractive store, where Bibles could be sold to the public. Our present salesroom is quite

removed from the downtown district, and very few people pass during the day; so that our local sales amount to very little. While, if there were a store downtown, many Bibles, both in the dialects and English, could be sold over the counter. Besides, such a store would have a great advertising value and would keep the American Bible Society before the public.

The second recommendation is, that there should be a substation or a sub-Agency in the city of Cebu on the island of Cebu. This city is rapidly becoming the commercial center of the Visayan Islands. It is a shipping center for practically all the islands south of Luzon. Its contributory territory has a population of five to six millions of people; and the potential prospects for Bible sales is very great and could be very much facilitated from a sub-Agency in Cebu. The distance of the southern islands from Manila, and the loss of time involved in direct shipments from Manila, make colportage work both costly and uncertain. If books could be shipped in large quantities to a substation in Cebu, and distributed from there under the supervision of a competent person, sales in that territory could be greatly increased. And the cost of maintaining such a sub-Agency could easily be met out of increased sales.

In conclusion, it has been a great pleasure to be associated in this work during the past year. More than ever I feel the importance of the work of the American Bible Society, and I will count this year's experiences among the choicest of my whole life.



SIAM

The Siam Agency was established in 1890. The people are sometimes called Tai, which means the free people. The circulation is mainly in the Siamese and Lao languages, though a considerable number of Chinese Scriptures are used. Besides these languages there is a scattering distribution in over two score other languages. The total circulation for the year 1926 was 133,282 volumes. The total circulation since the establishment of the Agency is 2,736,745. The force for 1926 consisted of 110 colporteurs and 13 volunteers. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Robert Irwin, with headquarters at New Road, near British Legation, Bangkok, Siam.



ITH sole responsibility for supplying Scriptures in the whole country and even beyond its borders, it is not surprising that the Agency Secretary feels seriously, and somewhat overwhelmingly, that he has a heavy task. Not that he flinches or regrets. It is the sense of unreached territory and people that troubles. "Should these things be?" is asked in the report of the missions which have work in the territory this Agency endeavors to serve. But is it not a question which the home churches and supporting constituency really must answer? There is a challenge, if not an indictment, by the facts given. Happy progress in the work of translation and revision is gladly recorded. Perhaps it seems a little odd to read of hotels in far-off Siam being furnished with Bibles; but it reveals how travelers are reaching distant regions, and how those in distant parts are keeping in touch with home methods.

Ruskin records the reply of an artist to an inquiry respecting the general means for uniting drawing and color: "Know what you have to do, and do it"; and Ruskin found in that reply the great principle of success in every direction of human effort. We have a pretty clear idea of what we have to do in this Agency; viz: to put at least a portion of Scripture into the hands and homes of all the Tai, with the exception of one, possibly two, small territories, and all the mountain tribes in Siam, French Laos, and that part of the Shan States not under the care of the British and Foreign Bible Society; and we are trying to do it. But it is not as simple as it means. Roughly, one half the Tai and all the tribes are illiterate, and the

literate Tai use four distinct scripts, though all the people, hearing any of the four read, would understand; travel is very difficult for half the year over a large part of our Agency; we have few trained men, and the religious indifference of some influential westerners neutralizes national interest in the gospel. Still, we have no reason to complain. We were not promised an easy winning of the East. "Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it." So must we. "In due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Distribution

The distribution of Scriptures in this Agency is done mostly by paid colporteurs. It is about the only method open to us. No church has yet undertaken to care for any considered territory, and only a couple have even tried to provide their own district with portions of Scripture. Dr. McKean writes: "Our Leper Church is attempting evangelistic work and Bible distribution among the lepers at Ta Pee." We have tried in vain to get shops and traders to stock Scriptures for sale at a commission of 50 per cent. Some evangelistic missionaries carry Scriptures on their tours to sell or donate, and some require their evangelists to do so. Eleven foreign missionaries of five missions and two Siamese pastors select and supervise from one to a dozen of our colporteurs, and some of them report the work they have done. These men this year handled Society funds to the amount of 21,844 ticals.

Developing Colporteurs

Colportage is the ideal method of distribution, if we have ideal men. Unfortunately, we have no trained men. The best that most of them have is a little Bible study in church class or Sunday school, or privately with a missionary. A few have had one, two or three years in the theological seminary, and a few have had a course in salesmanship; two men have had two courses, one of ten days and one of five days. Whenever possible, Dr. Campbell had his men attend the various vacation Bible schools held throughout Chiengmai Province, and he reported "some good Bible study each day before starting the day's work" as a general method. Mr. Hanna took his men with him to Khun Tahn Mountain for ten days on his vacation. Mr. Callender, in South China, had his men in every six weeks for a ten days' drill in Scripture. Miss McCord taught our Bangkok men for several months in regular course of Bible study. And the Rev. R. W. Bachtell held his usual conferences and Bible study classes. The Agency Secretary has spent nearly the whole year in Bangkok, and every working-day held an hour's Bible study class of all his colporteurs in the city, from three to thirty-six. The ordinary criticism passed on us, and they are aplenty, is that "your method is very wasteful and incompetent. A few good men with higher wages would be cheaper and get more and better results than your large force of unskilled colporteurs." It is true; but good men do not grow on the

bushes around here. We have discovered that the only sure way of getting them is to train them; and coolies are about the only ones to be had for training. Our problem reduces itself to this: to turn raw coolies into expert colporteurs, and to do it quickly enough to get the Scriptures into every part of our fourteen hundred by four hundred mile field within the next three years. We welcome genuine criticism and try to profit by it. What does not apply we esteem as rain on the rocky road,—of a cleansing quality when we “are exercised thereby.” The Revs. V. L. Beecham and Strahlee, of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission, at an institute held in Bangkok, gave fifteen of our men a five days’ course in salesmanship and care of themselves. We are greatly indebted to them and hereby tender them and their mission and Bangkok station hearty thanks.

Area Covered

Circulation this year is about the same as last year; but the colporteurs have done better work, in that it has been more systematic, extensive, and accompanied by teaching. Although in the longer-worked sections of Siam it has been, as Dr. McKean puts it, “intensive rather than extensive work,” the colporteurs of the Bible House have covered a very large part of Siam. Only Sritamarat and Patani of the fourteen circles (states) have not been worked. Six Chiengrai colporteurs made a complete distribution in the eastern part of the southern Shan States, and the American Baptist Mission have had two Shan colporteurs at our expense in the west, but have not informed us of their work. In southern China our Nai Kawug at Muang Baw reported a steady work and good distribution largely in the city. Four other men are at Muang Ya or Mosha (Yuan Kiang, American Presbyterian Mission), one is near the Black River (A. P. M. U.) and we presume one or two at Chiengrung (A. P. M.), but none of the supervisors has reported. Dr. Taylor made a tour to Luang Prabang last fall with two of his best Tai Yuan men and distributed all the eastern Lao Scriptures we could secure from the Swiss Mission at Song Khone, and all the Siamese and Tai Yuan Scriptures he took with him. These two men have now taken their families and settled in Luang Prabang as missionaries of the American Presbyterian Mission in Siam, and we furnish one-half their expenses and salaries. They will spend half time distributing Scriptures. Dr. Taylor, forced out of his way to spend Sunday at a little village, found a man who told him “he had a Bible at home given him by an old man with a long beard (Dr. McGilvary). That must have been twenty-eight years ago. We gave him a Gospel in eastern Lao characters and told him to keep it on the lower shelf and wear it out reading it.”

Various Experiences

The colporteurs have had various experiences. For instance, a letter came yesterday from a band of four down the peninsula, in

which they say, "Our sales were good. We had much trouble on account of heavy rains. All roads were full of water and mud. We waded for three hours, water to our knees. The rains fell heavily half the time. It rained every day, and the country is flooded. Some people are glad to buy. To those who had no money we gave a book. We met an old woman on the road and explained the love of God and the advantages of having the Scriptures, and she bought four portions." Farther north, another band reported that "in some homes the water rose to the top of the roof, and most of the animals died."

"Another band reported: "The rain fell and wet us (in boat); mosquitoes were abundant also. There were always roughs ready to steal our stuff. All night we sat drenched and suffering, but we were careful that the books did not get wet. We had much difficulty — fields under water, rain falling, roads slippery, many waters to cross, one place over half mile wide. Dogs attacked and tore me. Occasionally we can find a boat for hire. The hardest is that we have to meet those who are acquainted with us, and whom we respect, when they see us preaching this gospel. They addressed me with biting irony, up to cursing of various kinds. I took the curses and did not recoil. I remembered that God takes care of words of irony. After they had heard my explanation, they lifted their hands in homage to God and bought many Scriptures."

A band of four, loaned by Mr. Knox, of Trang, wrote, "He (Mr. Knox) led us to three Umpurs. We walked two hours, motored two hours, sold two hours, walked another two hours, and slept at Yieng station. Next morning walked again, and at evening hired a boat and sailed out to sea; encountered a high wind and rain and had to tie up to a jungle island. Another boat was upset there, and we swam out and helped right it. We sold on the island and boated two nights to Puket."

An interesting young Tai Ya colporteur distributes a few Scriptures and teaches a lot of his illiterate people in the Yangtse River Valley, nearly a thousand miles north of Bangkok.

In East Siam two men wrote, "There is a dirt road for five hundred sen (12 miles), and after that we had to float or wade seven valleys and three rivers. Sometimes the water was over our head and often knee deep. We distributed and preached all along, but many of the people are Cambodians and could not understand us." On this tour both of these young men met pretty girls and promptly married them, and all are doing well. At Sisiket in Ubon, "They should have been pleased, but they turned on us in contempt. We endured their scoffs fourteen times, because we believed the Lord would cast his eyes on his servants of failing strength. Was it God who released them to madly scoff and gibe. We do not believe it; for it was He who called his disciples friends. Many in Ubon want to enter the religion of Jesus." In Udorn, "Jungle and forest all the

way. Sometimes climbed mountains all day, with villages here and there. People listened and read, were pleased and want baptism. Some of our stages were very dry. The little water in the brooks was stagnant and full of mouldy leaves." "Slept in a big forest, a fearsome place, but He who is Lord was with us and we were unharmed." "Nobody would buy. They had bought already and knew the story, but were without understanding. They said, 'When you colporteurs go away, the story is finished; there will be no one to teach us again.' The people depend on sky water in showers. When that is good, rice and fish food is abundant; but when bad, famine is born, and they scarcely eat. For three years it has been bad, and cattle, buffaloes, dogs, ducks and chickens are all dead of plague."

In south Chiengmai, Nai mau reports: "The village (Sunnong) has eighteen roofs, and the people are easy to teach. They ask exact questions, and we explain and compare the two religions clearly. The most interested are Uncle Crystal with his wife and children, Mr. Crystal Pig, and Noi Techa. Five other households understand clearly and are nervously discussing whether to accept or not. We do not know how it will turn out. We are praying for them daily. Last Sunday we invited all of them to attend worship at the Karen Chapel. We read, sang, prayed and opened the Scriptures and they rejoiced. At night they sent a messenger to invite us to sing for them, and again we opened the Scriptures for them. On the 7th, at night, Mr. Crystal Pig invited us to worship at his home. More than ten were there, and they asked about the religion from the very first. We explained everything right through in detail. Then they wanted to know what they would have to do if they accepted, and said it was rather difficult to accept quickly. Pray for them. On the night of the twelfth, Mr. Firstborn Gold came and invited us to go and hold worship at Uncle Crystal's, for he had called in all his children and wanted to inquire again. He is very anxious, and, if they are unanimous, the whole clan will come in. Now they are talking about the matter every day."

How Colporteurs Are Received

Mani wrote: "The old lady assisted us to find a lodging, but we did not succeed. Then she invited us to put up with her, and she gave us food too. On leaving we tried to pay her, but she would not take anything. We could do nothing else than to pray God to bless her, and she seemed pleased with our words."

"Near Chainat, we visited the footprint of Buddha on the peak of a high hill. There are three hundred and forty steps. I think it is very hard for old people to reach the top. Even I had to stop and rest half-way up."

Nan Noi, of Chiengrai, gives a good description of backward people, what most of the North Siamese were thirty-five years ago: "They are superstitious and believe in spirits. They really worship

many different spirits. Our gramophone attracted them; but when I began to teach about Jesus, they all ran away. Still, some took Scriptures. Their wives abused them and asked why they should bring these books home to chase the house spirit away. The men had to decide between their books and their wives; they could not keep both."

Some Results

Dr. Campbell writes: "October 8. The accessions in North Siam Presbytery are a little larger than last year, and the colporteurs have done their part in bringing in the new people and sowing much for future harvest. During this month (June) fifty-two adults have made a public confession of faith in Christ, and thirty-four children have been baptized. This refers to the districts where the Scriptures have been distributed the last few months. I trust that you will realize the large share the Bible Society has had in all this, and yourself in particular, and that your heart will be cheered accordingly. When you write the New York Office, please to remind those who are bearing the burden of routine work at that end of the line." * * * "The men have worked well. The Metha Valley campaign was good."

"The favorable change in attitude of the masses toward the reading of Scriptures during the past few years is really wonderful. One day it will mean some large mass movements. Will you and I see it? Anyhow, we have the privilege of helping prepare for that time, and that is quite as great a privilege as being here when the time comes, isn't it? In Muang Lee and Muang Tern they met with a fair degree of success in distributing. Elsewhere a less degree. In Raheng the house was stoned, and they were warned to leave."

The Rev. R. W. Bachtell writes: "Mainly through the Bible man, Lung Ai, a family seems to have taken a decided stand. A few weeks ago we attended a delightful service in the new chapel which Elders Kiang and Lah had been instrumental in building, for recent and backslidden Christians as a partial result of their Bible work. Colporteurs reported that people listen well, but hesitate to take the all-important step. The Word is working slowly into the hearts, and we may hope for more interest."

In Southern China

The information from China regarding our work is of the meagerest. We are distressed at the news that the Rev. C. R. Callender has been ordered home for a delicate surgical operation. Mr. Callender has been running down in health for some time, but has manfully kept at work. His operation at Canton was successful, but revealed a more serious trouble, that could not be attended to there. On his way to attend missionary conferences at Canton and Shanghai, meet the China Council and have the operation, he met the representatives

of all the missions at Yunnanfu, to discuss common problems. They strongly urged that the American Presbyterian Mission become responsible for all the territory between the present stations, and for the Chinese and hill tribes as well as the Tai. This territory is about sixteen by ten traveling days, now practically without missionaries, in which there are many illiterate Tai we have not yet been able to touch. We would be delighted to send colporteur-teachers, if the Presbyterian Board, or any other board, will enter and give effect to our work and expense. What is to become of the field of Muang Baw (Chinese Wei-Yuen) with Mr. Callender gone and Noi Kawng going? And what of his training classes, schools and multitude of catechumens in the Mosha station, with only one new foreign family left? And the Yuan Kiang section with only one family? And the broad touring fields on which Mr. Callender counted so much? We rarely fully appreciate a man until we lose him.

We are painfully aware of the partial nature of our work. The Bible Society does not work for itself, but for the missions of the church. To make our work effective, they must follow it up with the preaching of the gospel and instruct those who have become interested. Not to do so is like ploughing a field and not sowing it. Some missions and churches hold aloof or give us only a half-hearted support or support us only along certain lines. Many missionaries regard our work as part of their own, as it is, and are loyally devoted to us; but the Christian forces in this part of the world are not yet sufficiently unified to scare Satan or to win Siam and the Tai. After all these decades the church is still "playing at missions."

Should These Things Be?

To be specific, the American Bible Society has been distributing Scriptures in the South Shan State (Chiengtung State) for twenty-five years. About fifteen years ago the American Baptist Mission took over the field from the American Presbyterian Mission; but for most of the time they have had no permanent missionary there speaking the Tai language. A few months ago an urgent message was received by the Tai pastor of Chiengrai Church, asking for a minister or elder to go to Muang Yawng and baptize a number of persons who have been studying the Scriptures distributed by our colporteurs. Pastor Dee forwarded the letter to us, and we telegraphed the resident missionary in Chiengrai to send a man at our expense. Dr. Beach feared complications with the other mission and took no action. This was probably wise, but what a comment on mission work! Must the kingdom of God forever be pushed into the future, and more generations die without church privileges because of the touchiness of missions. In Muang Yawng there are immersed and sprinkled Christians; but they have no wish to be known as two companies, and they have repeatedly begged for a pastor and a common church.

Last year as a result of the work of four colporteurs, a number of citizens of Ubon and Sisaket, cities two days apart in East Siam, petitioned us to give them a pastor and organize a church. We forwarded the petition to all the missions working in and around Siam, and the Alliance Mission of French Indo-China has appointed Mr. Ellison of Battambang to visit the fields when he can, with a view to occupying it.

Tribes

Work among the tribes has gone on about as usual. Nyee spent about four months with the Yow and Miao in the Nan Hills, and reports a good hearing for the gospel teaching and an eager wish for schools. The Rev. Chima and Elder Keo have lived the year with the Kamu in Muang Sai in North French Laos near the China border. Dr. Taylor and his men visited the Kamu in the vicinity of Luang Prabang. Saw Loo Shwe was prevented by illness in his family from giving full time to the Karen along the Burma border. It is extremely difficult to get definite information. The Tai who live on the plains practically never meet the mountain people at home, and the tribes come down only occasionally and then hurry home again. We need to set an expert linguist to live among them long enough to learn them and to classify them for comprehensive missionary work. Only a few tribes are receiving attention, and no mission seems to be strong enough to care for more than a part of one or two tribes. The Christian Church is failing its Master in this matter. The fault may not be with any mission nor board nor individual. It may be due to our wretched system of denominations, that can only be cured by union of some kind. Pending that, and as a step toward it, why should not those of us in this part of the world get together and appoint representatives for conference? These fragments of old nations are dying while, by our system, we make of no effect "the commandment of God" to evangelize all nations. "He that is not with me is against me."

Revision

The Revs. P. A. Eakin, Pluang Sukikham, Kim Heng Mangara, and Charoen Skunkan, and Kru Charoen Wichai have continued the revision of the Siamese New Testament throughout the year. They have finished through Romans. The first five books have been printed, plates of a reduced size have been made, and a second printing made from them with illustrations and maps. The result is a beautiful piece of work, and we look forward eagerly to the time when we shall have the whole Bible in the same uniform type and style.

Early in December this committee began the revision of Siamese Genesis. This book has been quietly waiting for nearly eight years. We need it, in order to begin stereotyping the Old Testament. All the rest of the historical books have been revised. We hope the

regular Scripture committee will continue the revision of the second half of the Old Testament.

New Publications

We have this year put out the first edition of Lao or Tai Yuan Scriptures as follows:

Ecclesiastes	Hosea	Obadiah	Habakkuk
Jeremiah	Zechariah	Micah	Zephaniah
Lamentations	Joel	Nahum	

These and the remaining unprinted books of the Old Testament were transliterated from the Siamese by Dr. McKean and the Rev. Kamai some years ago. Next year should see the Tai Yuan Bible completed.

Bible in Hotels

Fifty-three English Bibles have been placed in three hotels and one reading room in Bangkok and in three hotels in Chiangmai. We are indebted to the Home Office for these books.

Bible Sunday

We have reason to believe that more churches than before have observed the day, though fewer have written us regarding it. Two made their first contribution, the Fourth of Bangkok and Mosha in Yunnan. Hua Lampong Sunday school, which is practically a church, observed the day and made an unusually large offering of 50 ticals. The Agency Secretary addressed the congregations of the Fourth Church, Bangkok, on our regular Bible Sunday in March, the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the Saturday preceding, Leper Church, Mekawak Church and Ban Den in Chiangmai on the first Sunday in December, and the three churches in Prae on the second Sunday in December. For whole-hearted devotion to the Bible in Siam the lepers must be accorded first place. How true it is that the weak, the base, the despised of earth, bring to naught those of us who seem to be something. Dr. McKean, who has been father, physician, and friend to these lepers, is deserving of the highest honor. And how nobly the lepers have responded to his interest in them! Just now a letter from him has the following: "And what do you think these poor lepers did? For months they had been saving their stangs and last Sunday took up a collection for the lepers of Chengshen, China—57.51 ticals; these poor, wretched people, despised, the offscouring of the earth, now cleansed and made children of God!"

Lampang combined their Bible and Christmas services. Mr. Hanna reported great enthusiasm among the church members and interest evinced by the large number of non-Christian visitors. The Mosha Church, in the Red River Valley (A. P. M.) in far-away Yunnan, observed the day and sent an offering. Mr. Callender reported good interest. Chiengrai, Trang, and the First of Bangkok

also observed the day and sent offerings. The King's Daughters Society of Bangkok First sent us a special contribution. The Rev. P. H. Fuller presented the subject to the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of Bangkok, foreign section, from the text "Thy word have I hid in my heart." This church made us three offerings this year.

This year, we have had fewer contributing churches and individual givers than last year — eleven and twenty-one respectively. The churches last year gave Ts. 629.52; this year Ts. 371.72. Individuals gave last year Ts. 410.12; this year Ts. 582.00. The Milton Stewart Evangelistic Fund, through its trustee, the Rev. W. E. Blackstone, gave us the usual amount, \$1,400 for work in China, East Siam, and Luang Prabang.

"Perplexed, But Not in Despair"

Several circulars were sent out to all churches, over sixty of them, asking them for a place on their budget. We thought we had reason to expect an increase in the number of offerings, and the falling off comes with something of a shock. Perhaps it should not be taken as a lack of interest. Unless attended to at once, such letters are pigeonholed and forgotten or crowded out by other immediate demands. Also, unselfish giving is a matter of slow growth. The pocketbook is usually the last part of a man or church to be converted. It is surprising that some of our regular contributing churches failed us this year, and not all the churches that observed Bible Sunday made us an offering, although literature worth many ticals was sent them for distribution. There is perhaps not a single church of any mission in our Agency that has not been helped by our colporteurs. Does it mean that the general membership of the churches is not interested in Bible work, and that gifts to us, or to any other cause, are due to one or more foreign missionaries urging such? If so, then the hope that the Tai and Chinese and mountain tribe churches are ready to care for themselves is barren. Gratitude or unselfishness are fundamental characteristics of stability. We know one church, which, though for many years never failing to send us a gift, last year made its offering to the British and Foreign Bible Society of Singapore and, presumably, also this year. Probably they thought it made no difference! Our work and financial obligations have increased, but our appropriation for 1927 from the Home Office remains what it was for the past two years, and less than in former years. Also the Milton Stewart Fund can provide us with only \$700, half what it was before. There is an almost unlimited opportunity for greater work among the Tai, the mountain tribes and polyglot immigrants; but unless we receive large gifts, we shall be forced to close our eyes to this opportunity, and perhaps retrench. On our present financial standing we cannot maintain the work we have. "We are perplexed, but not in despair." We refuse to be discour-

aged and shall continue to plan for advanced work. We believe in God and that he is cooperating with us. In course of time we shall be regularly on the budget of every church within the limits of the Agency, and receive an annual offering. The churches and individual givers will come to see that gifts to the Bible Society will return to themselves in larger measure.

Help Other Than Money

Besides these gifts of money, several have contributed in other ways. The Rev. R. P. Abel secured for us the loan of four picture plates: Khoon Thanakit Vicharn supplied us with ink for the year; the Rev. C. E. Eckels presented our library with an old copy of Galatians to Titus inclusive, in the Mohn language, printed at Maulmein in 1843 by the American Baptist Mission. The daily press of Bangkok has occasionally noticed our work, and many have assisted our colporteurs, especially in the outside districts. All who have helped in any way have our hearty thanks.

Gifts

The following is the honor list of donors:

CHURCHES

Presbyterian, Bangkok	Ts. 137.20
Chiengrai	7.50
Hualampong Sunday School	50.00
First, Bangkok	15.00
King's Daughters, First, Bangkok	5.00
Fourth, Bangkok	21.14
First, Chiengmai	25.00
Leper, Chiengmai	63.17
Pa Pung, Prae	10.00
Mosha, Yunnan	10.71
Seventh-day Adventist Mission	27.00
	Ts. 371.72

INDIVIDUALS

Colporteur Kamphan	Ts. 21.90
Rev. Ng. Siu Teng	25.00
G. Fuller's colporteurs	60.05
Ku Ngak Song	100.00
Nang Pleck Oonyawongse	5.00
Reading Room gift box	1.80
Mahala Davis	141.30
Mr. Graham S. Sanderson	10.00
Mr. Mark Moj dara	50.00
Nai S'art Saly, Roiett	2.00
Mr. Seigle's colporteur	7.20
Mr. J. Elwyn Davies	30.00
Mr. P. D. Mazza	10.00
Miss Lucy Dunlap	10.00
Rev. Charoen Skunkan	10.00
Dr. W. A. McIntosh	25.00
Dr. N. Eskelund	40.00
Miss Faye Kilpatrick	.75
Dr. J. W. McKean	15.00
Rev. L. S. Hanna	5.00
Rev. Chas. E. Eckels	12.00
	582.00
Total	Ts. 953.72

PERIODICALS FOR READING ROOM

In English:

J. Elwyn Davies	<i>South Wales Weekly News</i> <i>London Daily News</i> <i>London Daily Mirror</i> <i>Manchester Guardian</i>
Mrs. J. B. Dunlap	<i>Outlook</i> <i>Literary Digest</i> <i>Presbyterian Advance</i>
Nai Nguan	<i>John Bull</i>
Europe Hotel	<i>Package Magazines</i>
Rev. F. A. Pratt	<i>Forest and Life</i> <i>Travel</i> <i>Current History</i>
Miss Aimee Lindwall	<i>War Cry</i>
Watana Witaya Academy	<i>School Magazine</i>
British and Foreign Bible Society	<i>All the World</i> <i>Every Land</i>
Rev. R. P. Abel	<i>Watchman</i> <i>Signs of the Times</i>
Mr. C. L. Groundwater	<i>China Journal</i> <i>Blackwood's</i> <i>National Geographic</i>
Dr. Mary A. Irwin	<i>Christian Century</i> <i>World To-morrow</i>
Rev. P. H. Fuller	<i>Atlantic Monthly</i>
Mr. S. H. Carnahan	<i>Christ the Divine One</i>
Mrs. W. G. McClure	<i>Christian Work</i> <i>Continent</i> <i>Herald and Presbyter</i>
Siam Tourist Agency	<i>Met in Siam</i>
International Sunday-school Association	<i>Lesson Study Magazines</i>
Mrs. M. B. Palmer	<i>Sundry Magazines</i> <i>Literary Digest</i>
Dr. H. R. O'Brien	<i>New York Times</i> <i>Missionary Herald</i>
Mr. Cecil N. de Trafford	<i>Package Magazines</i>
Mrs. C. L. Watson	<i>Motor</i> <i>London Daily Express</i> <i>Financial News</i>

In English and Siamese:

Assumption College	<i>Echo</i> <i>Sarasart</i>
Bangkok Christian College	<i>College News</i>

In Siamese:

<i>The Paka Thai Daily News</i>	
Public Health Department	<i>Kraang Kan Saranat Sook</i>
Siam Red Cross Society	<i>Their Magazine</i>
<i>Krung Debh Karn Muang</i>	<i>Daily</i>
<i>Sri Krung</i>	<i>Daily</i>
<i>Nangsu Pimb Thai</i>	<i>Daily</i>
<i>Bangkok Karn Muang</i>	<i>Daily</i>

Malay:

Miss Aimee Lindwall	<i>Malay News</i>
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Swedish:

Miss Aimee Lindwall	<i>Stija Kreet</i>
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Chinese:

Rev. R. P. Abel	<i>Signs of Times</i>
Chino-Siamo	<i>Daily Newspaper</i>

Books:

Mr. J. Elwyn Davies	"Juve in the Dock" (English)
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Literature Printed

Besides the printing of the Scriptures, — 57,000 volumes, — we have put out the following leaflets for general distribution:

In English:—

"Colporteurs in the Shan State," "Drive into North Chiangmai Nos. 26 and 27," "Work in Chiangmai," "Up the Maa Klong

River," "Prayer Calendar" (We are pleased to notice that several families use this at their daily worship. We wish all might do so).

In Siamese:—

"William Tyndall," "Voice and Book" for Bible Sunday. (We have to thank the Rev. Banchong Banasiddhi for the latter.)

A number of circulars, articles for newspaper, and translated reports from colporteurs throughout the year told of our work here and at home.

Mission Appreciation

The following letter is very gratefully received:

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN MISSION IN SIAM
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. Chiangmai, December 30, 1926.

"It is a right pleasant duty to pass on to you the following resolution adopted by the Mission at its recent meeting:

"We are most grateful to the Rev. Robert Irwin and Mrs. Irwin for the continuation of their friendly relations and very helpful co-operation in the work of the Mission; realizing that without such cooperation, the Mission would be greatly handicapped in the work of giving the Scriptures to the Siamese people in their own language. The Mission also desires to express its gratitude to Dr. Mary Irwin for her services in the Maternity Home during the time of Miss Christensen's illness."

"You deserve this and a good deal more, and I can only add my own best wishes for all the days to come.

"Ever cordially,

"RODERICK M. GILLIES."

APPENDIX Manufacture

Comparison with last year:

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
For 1925.....	15	549	14,550	15,114
For 1926.....	..	..	62,700	65,861
Binding.....	..	121	3,040	
Decrease.....	15	428	.....	443
Increase.....	..	..	51,190	51,190
Total net increase				50,747

Publication

Press	Languages	Books	Volumes	Pages
	Siamese	Luke	300	29,100
	"	II Chronicles	600	54,600
Ah Chow	"	Ezekiel	400	51,600
	"	Ruth	5,000	40,000
Bangkok	"	Mark	5,000	320,000
	"	Revelation	300	12,900
	"	James	2,000	18,000
	"	Matthew	5,000	490,000
	"	John	5,000	420,000
	"	Genesis I-II	5,000	180,000
	Siam-Lao	James	10,000	190,000
Nam-Cheang	Siamese	I Chronicles	600	42,000
	"	Ruth	600	4,800
	"	Matthew	800	18,400

Press	Languages	Books	Volumes	Pages
Siam Free	Siamese	Mark	800	49,600
"	"	Luke	1,000	107,000
"	"	John	800	66,400
Wah Cheong	"	Luke	5,000	540,000
"	Tai Yuan	Ecclesiastes	500	8,500
"	"	Jeremiah	500	74,000
Chiangmai	"	I John	3,000	36,000
"	"	Hosea	500	8,000
"	"	Lamentations	500	6,500
"	"	John	6,000	72,000
"	"	Zechariah	500	10,000
"	"	Joel	500	3,000
"	"	Obadiah	500	6,500
"	"	Micah	500	6,000
"	"	Nahum	500	2,500
"	"	Habakkuk	500	3,000
"	"	Zephaniah	500	1,000
5	3	23	62,700	2,871,400

Publications Classified According to Language

Languages	No. Volumes	No. Pages
Siamese.....	38,200	2,504,400
Siam-Lao.....	10,000	190,000
Tai Yuan (Lao).....	14,500	237,000
Total.....	62,700	2,931,400

Additions to Stock

DIRECT ADDITIONS:	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
Manufacture.....	...	...	62,700	62,700
From Home Office.....	19	97	.....	116
From purchase.....	389	254	435	1,078
Losses recovered.....	2	97	14,145	14,244
Total.....	410	448	77,280	78,138
INDIRECT ADDITIONS:				
From binders.....	...	121	3,040	3,161
Total.....	...	121	3,040	3,161
Total direct additions.....	410	448	77,280	78,138
Total additions.....	410	569	80,320	81,299

Issues from Stock

DIRECT ISSUES:	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
From Bangkok depository.....	231	534	129,658	130,423
From Chiangmai depository.....	...	5	29,742	29,747
Total.....	231	539	159,400	160,170
INDIRECT ISSUES:				
To binders.....	...	...	41,799	41,799
Total direct issues.....	231	539	159,400	160,170
Grand total direct and indirect issues.....	231	539	201,199	201,969

Comparison of Direct Issue for 1926

	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
From 1925.....	323	614	137,278	138,215
From 1926.....	231	539	159,400	160,170
Decrease from 1925.....	92	75	.....	167
Increase from 1925.....	...	...	22,122	22,122
Total net increase.....	...	...	.....	21,955

Circulation for 1926

SUPERVISORS:	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
Bangkok Depository	82	108	2,826	3,016
Rev. G. Fuller	277	621	7,480	8,378
Rev. A. G. Seigle	21	...	2,579	2,600
Kru Phuang	...	1	3,782	3,783
Rev. R. W. Post	...	5	230	235
Rev. H. Campbell, D.D.	...	1	34,429	34,430
Rev. R. W. Bachtell	3	51	8,564	8,618
Dr. J. W. McKean	...	...	7,507	7,507
Rev. R. M. Gillies, D.D.	1	...	10,442	10,443
Rev. R. T. McConnell	...	...	80	80
Mrs. J. H. Freeman	...	...	300	300
Rev. H. W. Stewart	...	...	1,228	1,228
Office Forces Bangkok	6	37	9,961	10,004
Ubol	...	5	6,372	6,377
Trang	11	10	88	109
Nakon Tathom	2	17	1,389	1,408
Roi Eth	5	50	2,473	2,528
Lampang	11	48	6,846	6,905
Prae	2	41	2,091	2,134
Muang Bow	...	66	10,900	10,966
Nan	8	...	972	980
Yuan Kiang	...	53	11,202	11,255
Total	429	1,114	131,741	133,284

Comparison of Distribution with 1925

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
1925	217	317	131,000	131,534
1926	429	1,114	131,741	133,284
Decrease	212	797	741	1,750

Details of Circulation

SALES:	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
By depositories	76	93	2,575	2,744
By colporteurs	245	552	35,404	36,201
Total sales	321	645	37,979	38,945
DONATIONS:				
By depositories	6	15	251	272
By colporteurs	102	454	93,511	94,067
Total donations	108	469	93,762	94,339
Total sales	321	645	37,979	38,945
Total circulation	429	1,114	131,741	133,284



Showing Agency of the
AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

CHINA

The China Agency was established in 1876. Its headquarters are in Shanghai. There are four non-Chinese sub-Agency Secretaries, located at Hankow, Chungking, Chengtu, and Peking. They superintend the work of distribution of Scriptures in their respective fields. The force reported for 1926 consisted of 26 colporteurs, with 300 correspondents and 249 voluntary workers. The circulation is chiefly in the Mandarin, Wenli (Classical), and Easy Wenli languages; but considerable numbers of Scriptures are also circulated in colloquial dialects, spoken by millions of people. The principal of these into which the whole Bible has been translated by our Society are the Canton, Fuchau, Hinghua, Soochow, and Shanghai. The circulation for 1926 was 3,821,393 books,—an increase of 86,916 over 1925. It brings the total distribution since the founding of the Agency to 45,422,434 volumes. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. G. Carleton Lacy, 23 Yuen Ming Yuen Road, Shanghai, China.



If anyone at home or abroad needs a tonic, let this report be read. Difficulties — yes; disappointments — yes; defeats — yes, temporary. But read the report. Courage and hope and praise will rise in your heart. Mission property has been looted or destroyed; two or three thousand missionaries may have been withdrawn to the coast or to their homelands. But ten million “silent missionaries” went into China in 1926, and they have been speaking with the voice of God to individual hearts among the myriads of China, not only in the great cities and the populous river valleys, but in the isolated mountain homes and even to the furthest reaches of the great frontiers; and they are bringing forth that whereto they were sent. Is the work and influence of foreign missionaries ended? Read and see. One can say — “this fall again the tribes have agreed, at my request, not to plant opium.” Another discovers a mountain tribe with a religious emblem linking it, not only in thought but almost in name, to Jesus, in prophecies. And, perhaps best of all, throughout the report and between the lines, can be seen those who, though born in foreign lands, are in sympathy with China and the Chinese, even in the midst of much that is unfriendly and dangerous. Read and rejoice.

China was never more challenging as a field for Christian service than to-day. In twelve years of missionary work there has never been a moment when life here was more worth while, where the need for a glowing Christian testimony was more real. While many an heroic soul bravely sings "Lead, kindly Light, amid the encircling gloom," the clear eye of faith looks out toward the horizon, and the bounding heart shouts victoriously, "The morning light is breaking."

A Ray of Dawn

This ray of dawn already reveals a church which has begun to throb with Christian life and activity, that thinks for itself, and is determined to rid itself of handicaps to spiritual vitality. It is seeking devoutly Christ's way of life, with a will to walk therein. It realizes, as declared in a recent call from the National Christian Council, that there is "one way and only one whereby the needs of the people may be met and the church revived. It is to live according to Christ's way of life, firm in will and pure in aim."

A church that is so self-conscious and Christ-conscious can not be content to move along in ruts or even on traditional highways. One is sometimes reminded of a cart journey across the stubble kaolin fields of Shantung, where roads are pretty well obliterated and the driver guides his mule toward the goal with little regard for the riders or the bumps. The experience is jarring. Lame muscles and bruised joints are suffered, but the mule and the cart plunge persistently forward; for the driver knows whither he is bound.

Pregnant Questions

No missionary enterprise in China can be indifferent to the great problems with which the Chinese Church is wrestling. Some of these, as stated by Dr. David Yui, chairman of the National Christian Council, are: "(1) When will the troubles in China end, so that we can peacefully carry on our work? (2) Should we uphold the toleration clauses of the unequal treaties, or be in favor of giving them up? (3) What should be our attitude toward the anti-Christian movement? (4) Is the Chinese Christian Church becoming a reality? (5) What is the place of the missionary in the Christian movement in China?"

Thought-stirring Answers

As a leader and representative of the best thinking of the Chinese Christians he answers these questions courageously. He believes that Christianity possesses a moral and spiritual power capable of saving and regenerating individual and national life at all times and under all circumstances; that it offers the very curative and recuperative power which is desperately needed at this hour; and that we must, as Christ's soldiers, accept the challenge of the hour and march forward with confident hope and win. He is convinced that the Chinese people are divided by many things, but are absolutely united in

the national movement to abrogate the unequal treaties, which are doomed to go at an early hour never to reappear; and that the Christian movement should rejoice over the fact that Christianity will soon shake off the shackles of "special protection," and make its irresistible appeal freely on its own merit. He feels that the anti-Christian movement has greatly helped in sobering us, in clarifying our thinking, in evaluating our belief and experience, in overcoming our mental, moral, and spiritual inertia, in arousing a greater consciousness of God's love for us, and in strengthening our loyalty to Christ. He sees the Christian Church penetrated by the national spirit, throwing out foreign denominational divisions, developing a sense of responsibility and unity, moving cautiously and courageously along proper and constructive lines. Of the future place of the missionary in this church, he says, "The best and highest gift from the Christian movements of the West to the Christian movement in China is the life of the missionary"; and that when freed from a superiority complex and the determination to dictate and dominate, from the tendency to perpetuate Western nonessentials, from a too strong nationalism in attitudes on current questions, and from emphasis on external and material things rather than spiritual life, "it is this type of life which, more than anything else, helps make a reality the fatherhood of God and the Saviourhood of Jesus Christ. We plead that this should be made a permanent gift to the Christian movement in China, that the presence of Christian workers from the other lands will never be discontinued in the Christian movement in China."

The American Bible Society has sought an understanding of the heart and thought of the Christian Church in these matters and a sympathetic cooperation at all points. It is gratifying to find repeated assurances that the church is alive to its need for the Scriptures, and that it accepts its share of responsibility for making them known and loved. A recent representative gathering of Christians from all sections of the country declared, "As we clearly see the importance of finding Christ's way of life, we are brought back freshly to the need for Bible reading and prayer as first essentials. The Bible contains the record of God's love and its manifestation in the life of Jesus Christ. Therefore, to know God and to find Christ's way, we must study the Bible. There are still many in the church who cannot read at all, and these must be taught to read. Among those who can are many who do not care to read the Bible, and these need good study helps and other means whereby their interest in the Bible may be stimulated. And, in reading the Bible, we need to pray." A survey made during the year by the Bible Society showed that of 3,327 church members 1,241 cannot read; and that of other 1,190 members 644 cannot read. It was with these facts in mind that the Agency Secretary accepted the chairmanship of the National Committee on Worship and Religious Education, which is giving attention to

methods for enabling more people to find intelligent and happy access to the Christian Scriptures.

Superlatives

The year 1926 was the first of the China Agency's second half century. It calls for an unusually large number of superlatives to do it justice. The biggest printing orders ever placed have set the presses humming; the biggest leather binding contracts have exhausted the local leather markets; the biggest circulation figures ever totaled have been in spite of much-interrupted transportation service; the biggest sales ever made to a single individual have demanded careful attention to fulfill contracts; and, characteristic of the pulpit Bible, have been the biggest type edition of the Union Version Mandarin Bible and the biggest Union publishing enterprises that the Bible Societies have carried through. We have enjoyed the most favorable exchange rate known for a decade. We have carried on the work with the smallest full-time foreign staff with which our Agency has functioned in over thirty years. For the first time we have had a Chinese field Secretary constantly at promotional work, writing and speaking in many parts of the country. We have had the most interrupted mail service in the northwest, the most widespread civil war in the south and central sections, the most thoroughgoing change in government since the revolution of 1911. So one might continue in these superlative terms; but a more detailed report of our activities will carry greater weight.

General Chang Chih-kiang's Purchases

The beginning of the year found us engaged in fulfilling the remarkable order for 2,000 Bibles and 6,000 New Testaments received from General Chang Chih-kiang. This was described in our previous reports. By the time the books had been delivered from the binderies the battle of Tientsin had been won, and the General was in command of forces with headquarters once more established in Kalgan. He was notified of the landing of the books at Tientsin and immediately arranged for their transportation under military orders to Kalgan. Hardly had there been time for him to receive the books, when the delighted purchaser telegraphed a second order, — this time for 4,500 Bibles and 6,000 Testaments, — none of them in cheaper than half-leather bindings. He reaffirmed his position that his signed order was all that we needed by way of assurance that the contract would be fulfilled. War clouds, however, were again hanging low, and it was a real venture of faith that moved us to let this unprecedentedly big binding order to the Commercial Press.

Nor were our fears ungrounded.

A Remarkable Transaction

Before these books were delivered, though the bindery worked under pressure of time, the Fengtien army had obtained control of

Peking and communications with Kalgan were cut off. Mr. Strong, from the Peking depot, used every possible means and finally got word through to General Chang that his books were ready for him and awaited his arrangements for delivery. With almost unbelievable dispatch there came back a reply containing an order on a Peking bank to pay the account. This bank promptly paid over \$15,264.50 worth of banknotes, which were received by our bankers at full face value. It was a wonderful testimony to the integrity of the man who had ordered the Scriptures. The tide of warfare continued against this courageous leader; so that up to the end of the year he was neither able to reach Peking nor have the books shipped to him. But, in December, Mr. Hoose wrote from the depot: "In two instances lists for mailing have been sent to the Society, so some few books have reached the persons for whom they were intended. One of these lists came during the siege of Nankow. Names upon the list included some officers of the opposing forces. A few of these books were returned, as the enemy would not receive a gift from the general holding them in check at the pass. We have recently received a letter from the General asking us to send another lot to him, and we trust that it will be possible to make delivery of them all in the coming months." These two orders together amounted to 6,500 Bibles and 12,000 Testaments, for which cash payment was made amounting to \$21,000 Mex. In respect to number of volumes and value thereof the incident is quite unique in Bible Society annals. By way of big orders, however, mention should be made of our annual supply of Scriptures to the Biola Bands connected with the Bible Institute at Changsha. This institution believes in the free distribution of Scriptures with personal testimony, and its workers are trained as specialists therein. They have been buying from us at cost price each year approximately 12,000 copies of Testaments and 60,000 portions, for which their payment for this last year was \$3,087.90.

Publication Problems

These items have to be kept in mind when our receipts from the sale of Scriptures in 1926 are quoted at \$63,616.52 Mex. These cost price payments, however, relieve the Bible Society from the financial outlay involved in our ordinary sales at catalog prices, which are generally from 20 per cent to 50 per cent below the manufacturing cost of the book. With respect to the special supply of pocket New Testaments for the Million Testament Campaign a nearly similar arrangement has been made. Here the Bible societies jointly have undertaken to publish for the campaign promoters the entire supply of Testaments needed. For these we are being paid the actual printing and binding cost, — 20 cents Mex. per copy, — which is the catalog price of the book, and we have thus far borne all the expenses of plates and shells, and the much heavier charges for freight and postage. This has enabled us to have a little share in

shaping the methods of the campaign, and has avoided an independent organization carrying on an independent campaign of Scripture distribution. Before the end of the year the American Bible Society had distributed 15,500 of these Testaments for the campaign; the British and Foreign Bible Society a similar quantity, and the National Bible Society of Scotland about half that number. Printing orders under this campaign have to date been given totaling 700,000 copies, and it is hoped that the Million Testament Campaign may be pushed through to completion before the end of 1927, if possible.

Leather Shortage

Following close upon the issuing of the big consignment for the army came the publication of the long-awaited pulpit Bible. When our last report was written the typesetting of this big book, which required a year, was almost complete. During that time advance orders had been coming in so constantly that before the printing was completed it was necessary to increase the edition to 1,400 copies. This, as previously noted, was a joint publication by the three Bible societies. The size of the book and the size of the edition made a heavy drain upon the binding leather available in Shanghai, the supply of which had already been nearly exhausted by the use of huge quantities for General Chang's books. Insistence upon the best grade of leather delayed the completion of this publication until the end of the summer; but the enthusiastic reception accorded the book, and the letters of unstinted praise that poured in from every direction, gave evidence that the efforts expended in bringing out this pulpit Bible for general use in China were thoroughly appreciated and justified. The expense to the Bible societies was heavy, that of the American Bible Society alone being \$1,224.88; but the investment in enabling churches to have this book has been well worth while. The price has now been raised, so that future sales will be without loss.

As though the complications caused to the leather market and bookbinding business had not been enough, we caused further embarrassment in this field by our summer conference business. This was another new venture. Our field agent, the Rev. Lin Tien-ho, visited summer Bible conferences and Christian workers conferences in Peitaiho and Kuling. By the courtesy and cooperation of the conference leaders, he was given ample opportunity to present an appeal for more dignified and enthusiastic promotion of the use and distribution of the Bible. Through the generosity of the administrators of certain funds designated for literature and evangelism, the workers were able to secure handsomely bound volumes of the Bible at a very low price without loss to the Bible Society. Under this arrangement, orders amounting in value to over \$940 were received, and the binders who had not recovered from the earlier attacks had a bad relapse; so that it was not until the end of the year that the last of these orders for leather-bound, gilt-edged and gilt

name-stamped Bibles was filled. That the largest commercial and publishing center in the East should be thus utterly drained of its first-class book leather supply by the orders for Scriptures is not an everyday occurrence in the economic world.

We were still struggling over these leather binding orders, when cablegram advices started us at work on the special edition of New Testaments for the Million Testament Campaign above referred to. The stupendous printing orders for a cheap book in cloth binding caused a flurry in the paper market and a scurrying among the smaller binderies to secure a share in this job. One printer alone is turning these prized little books off his presses at the rate of a thousand copies a day for five months, and he has a minor portion of the entire job.

Canton Colloquial New Testament Revision

Another new publication worthy of special note was the Revised Cantonese Colloquial New Testament. For many years there have been two texts in use throughout the Cantonese language area, — the result of the inability of British and American translation committees to agree. Two years ago a new Union committee of Chinese, Americans and British brought out a thoroughly revised translation in which they were able to agree, not only on all other moot questions, but even on that which years ago rocked the entire missionary body in China, and ever since has cost the Bible Societies much money and labor, — the question as to the term for God. While, for decades, the Mandarin and Wenli texts have been published in two terms, in all local dialects except Canton the disagreement had been overcome and only one text and term was used. So far as the Bible Societies are concerned, that exception has now disappeared, and the new version which came from the presses during the past year is the joint publication of the American and the British and Foreign Bible Societies, in which one term for God is used, and for which a common title-page has been adopted. The edition was put out tentatively, subject to criticism. Of it our Canton representative, the Rev. H. O. T. Burkwall, writes:

"The Chinese leaders report very favorably on the style. It is welcomed by the workers in the lower Delta region, where the people use a mixed Cantonese dialect. The old Cantonese version never gained much acceptance among the people in this part of the province. From these parts have come many of the scholars of the old school and the older preachers in our churches. These have persisted in using the Wenli Scriptures, always maintaining that the Cantonese Scriptures lacked a certain dignity for which they sought. Reports from these sections voice now some praise for the style in the new revision. Farther afield, on the borders of the Cantonese-speaking part of the province come also encouraging letters approving the new style. Only one reviewer, thus far, makes any mention

of the critical side of the revision, but this is a scholar and a sinologue. His review of the new revision will be well worth study."

With these several unusual manufacturing enterprises on hand our total of manufactures for the year shows a falling off of 431,994 volumes. The output of Bibles was very close to that of the previous year; that of New Testaments was more than three times 1925's figure; while that of portions fell short a half million or more.

New Publications

Of new publications we have brought from the press:—
Canton Colloquial—New Testament, Revised Union Version

The British and Foreign Bible Society's New Publications for 1926

Cantonese—New Testament, Revised (Tentative edition)

Nosu—Acts

Annamese—Complete Bible

Cambodian—Mark

The following are the

Publications for 1926

Places of Publication	Dialects	Books	Volumes
Chengtu	Mandarin	Matthew	35,000
"	"	Mark	35,000
"	"	Luke	30,000
"	"	John	35,000
"	"	Acts	30,000
Shanghai	"	Bible	12,623
"	"	New Testament	129,250
"	"	Genesis	263,000
"	"	Exodus	15,000
"	"	Job	18,000
"	"	Proverbs	23,000
"	"	Daniel	13,000
"	"	Matthew	597,500
"	"	Mark	597,500
"	"	Luke	597,000
"	"	John	607,500
"	"	Acts	589,500
"	"	Romans	54,500
"	Mandarin and English	Mark	500
"	"	Luke	500
"	Easy Wenli	Bible, References	470
"	Wenli	New Testament	10
"	"	Genesis	6,000
"	"	Exodus	2,000
"	"	Matthew	6,000
"	"	Mark	6,000
"	"	Luke	6,000
"	"	John	6,000
"	"	Acts	6,000
"	Canton Colloquial	Bible	100
"	"	New Testament	200
"	"	Matthew	4,000
"	"	Mark	4,000
"	"	Luke	4,000
"	"	John	7,000
"	"	Acts	2,000
Hongkong	"	New Testament	2,250
Shanghai	Cantonese and English	New Testament	498
"	Fuchau Colloquial	Bible	930
"	"	New Testament	1,500
Hinghua, Fukien	Hinghua Colloquial	Mark (Romanized)	1,000
Total			3,749,331

Publications for 1926, Classified According to Dialects and Terms

Dialects	Shen	Shangti	Total
Mandarin.....	509,025	3,173,348	3,682,373
Mandarin and English.....		1,000	1,000
Easy Wenli.....		470	470
Wenli.....	18,000	20,010	38,010
Canton Colloquial.....	21,300	2,250	23,550
Cantonese and English.....		498	498
Fuchau Colloquial.....		2,430	2,430
Hinghua Colloquial.....		1,000	1,000
	548,325	3,201,006	3,749,331
Bibles.....	100	14,023	14,123
New Testaments.....	59,725	73,983	133,708
Portions.....	488,500	3,113,000	3,601,500
	548,325	3,201,006	3,749,331

Manufactures

The following is a comparison of the manufactures for the past two years:

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
For the year 1925.....	14,330	42,895	4,124,100	4,181,325
For the year 1926.....	14,123	133,708	3,601,500	3,749,331
Increase over 1925.....		90,813		
Decrease from 1925.....	207		522,600	
Net decrease from 1925.....				431,994

Total Manufactures by the China Agency

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Prior to 1926.....	356,703	1,421,279	41,759,752	43,537,734
For 1926.....	14,123	133,708	3,601,500	3,749,331
Total manufactures.....	370,826	1,554,987	45,361,252	47,287,065

Additions to Stock, 1926

Direct additions:

	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Concord.	Total
Manufacture.....	14,123	133,708	3,601,500	15	3,749,331
Home Office.....	39	112			166
Purchased from other Bible Societies.....	169	1,039	5,054		6,262
Other additions.....	8	221	21,952		22,181
Total direct additions	14,339	135,080	3,628,506	15	3,777,940

Issues for 1926

Direct issues:

	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
From Shanghai.....	19,664	47,548	3,588,465	3,655,677
From Hinghua.....	210	50	456	716
From Chengtu.....			165,000	165,000
Total direct issues.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393

Indirect issues:

	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
To other Bible Societies.....	552	1,010	2,223	3,785
To Home Office.....	290	1,250	12,750	14,290
To other Agencies.....	374	272	375	1,021
Total indirect issues.....	1,216	2,532	15,348	19,096
Total direct issues.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393
Total issues for 1926.....	21,090	50,130	3,769,269	3,840,489

**Issues from the China Agency for the Year Ending
December 31, 1926**

LANGUAGE	DIRECT				INDIRECT				GRAND TOTALS			
	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total	Bibles	Test's	Port's	Total	Bibles	Test's	Portions	Total
Mandarin.....	17,442	41,950	3,713,416	3,772,808	407	894	2,223	3,524	17,849	42,844	3,715,639	3,776,332
" Phon. Sc.		306	851	1,157						306	851	1,157
" Char. and												
" Phon. Sc.			147	147							147	147
" and Eng.		381	530	911		27		27		408	530	938
" Rom'z'd			45	45							45	45
Classical.....	41	962	242	1,245		50		50		41	1,012	1,295
Wenli.....	379	635	23,064	24,078	490	176		666	869	811	23,064	24,744
Easy Wenli.....	18			18	202			202	220			220
Canton Colloquial	301	992	14,520	15,813	110	720	13,125	13,955	411	1,712	27,645	29,768
Canton and Eng.			2	2		500		500		500	2	502
Canton, Rom'z'd					2			2				2
Fuchau Coll.	569	1,000		1,569					569	1,000		1,569
Fuchau, Rom'z'd						10		10		10		10
Hinghua, Rom'z'd	187		456	643					187		456	643
Shanghai Coll.	277	500		777	136			136	277	636		913
Shanghai Rom'z'd			60	60							60	60
Soochow Rom'z'd		92		92						92		92
Soochow Phon. Sc.			2	2							2	2
Arabic.....	1		1	2		14		14		14		14
English.....	648	765	569	1,982		4		4		4		4
French.....	2	6		8	4	1		5	652	766	569	1,987
German.....	3			3					1		1	2
Greek.....	1	1		2	1			1	3	6		9
Japanese.....	1		15	16					1			3
Kalmuck.....		1		1					1	1		2
Mong. and Tib't'n									1		15	16
Russian.....	4	6		10						1		1
Siamese.....			1	1					4	6		10
Tibetan.....											1	1
Welsh.....		1		1						1		1
Totals.....	19,874	47,508	3,753,921	3,821,393	216	2,532	15,348	19,096	21,090	50,130	3,769,269	3,840,489

Comparison of Direct Issues for 1925 and 1926

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
For 1925.....	16,815	48,860	3,967,521	4,033,196
For 1926.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393
Increase over 1925.....	3,059			
Decrease from 1925.....		1,262	213,600	
Net decrease from 1925.....				211,803

Total Direct Issues from the China Agency

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Prior to 1926.....	330,196	1,361,689	41,130,048	42,821,933
For 1926.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393
Total direct issues.....	350,070	1,409,287	44,883,969	46,643,326

Marvelous Mail Service

Not nearly all of our problems have been connected with publications. The distribution difficulties have been no less than in previous years. A very large proportion of our books are now sent out by post, and no words that we could write would adequately express our appreciation for the highly efficient service rendered by the Chinese Post Office. When a writer seeks the thrilling theme for a tale of heroic adventure in perils of pioneering, he can do no better than tell the true story of the mail carriers of inland China. The

latest report available shows that in a single year 334 postal establishments were looted; couriers were attacked while traveling with mails on 166 occasions, resulting in the wounding of more than sixty of these faithful employees; fourteen couriers were killed; 247 mail robberies were reported. Yet, in that same year, courier lines were increased 900 miles in addition to the increase in railway, launch and motor car service; and over \$100,000,000 in postal money orders and more than \$11,500,000 worth of parcels passed safely through the mails. The actual losses of Scriptures have been comparatively very few. Sometimes our books have required many months to reach their destinations. There are still large piles of wrapped Gospels lying in our offices waiting for the reopening of communications to the northwest.

Many of the reports that come in from our voluntary workers speak of the interruptions in Scripture distribution caused by bandits or by military operations. Floods, too, have done their share of damage.

Faithful unto Death

It is a sad yet thrilling story that Mr. Hoose sends in of the loss of one of our faithful colporteurs in the far north of China.

"One of the familiar figures on the Tsunwha District was Mr. Chang, the 'Bible Seller.' With his bundle of tracts, Bible portions, and Bibles on one end of his carrying pole, and a portable talking-machine on the other, he went from market town to market town on fair days, giving out tracts and selling portions and Bibles to the villagers. He was faithful and enthusiastic in his work, departing to the next market town early in the morning, and sometimes starting the night before so as to get early at his work. It was while traveling to a market town one evening this fall that he met with the accident that cost him his life. Mr. Chang had been at the fair at Pingan Chengtzu, and, after finishing work there, started with his pack to the next village. It was shortly after a heavy fall of rain, and the streams were very much swollen; in order to get to that next market he must cross the river outside the city. Darkness had already descended when he left Pingan Chengtzu, and the last time he was seen by his friends was when he passed through the city gates. The next morning some passer-by discovered the talking-machine on the bank of the river, and farther downstream Bible portions and tracts were washed ashore. This faithful servant of the Master had evidently lost his footing on the narrow bridge as he sought to cross in the dark. His friends searched for his body many days, but it was never found. He was one of the noble band of humble heroic souls who willingly give up life in the performance of duty."

In similar vein Mr. Torrance reports the narrow escape of one of his colporteurs in Szechwan.

"Colportage work truly calls for pluck, endurance, loyalty and hardship. Colporteurs travel so much that they hardly ever enjoy

the comforts of home; not infrequently they return sick or worn out. Mr. Chen, who last year fell twice into the hands of robbers, had this year a narrow escape from drowning. He was selling books in the mountains when a cloud-burst occurred. The torrent poured down so rapidly that it washed away houses near its edge. Mr. Chen at the time was near a paper-mill. Without warning he found himself caught in the swirling rush; he just managed to clutch onto a huge vat and save himself. But his half-hour's soaking in the water brought on a fever that lasted for weeks."

Our Largest Total Circulation

Yet, the courage and perseverance and faith and hard work of many genuine Christians have resulted in the largest total circulation ever reported by the China Agency of the American Bible Society for any one year. Our reports show a total circulation of 3,821,393 volumes, which exceeds our previous high record, that of 1925, by 86,916 copies. This is almost beyond belief. It speaks eloquently of the devotion of some 549 correspondents and voluntary workers, as well as our own 22 colporteurs, and the paid staff of office men, clerks, packers and accountants, who with the sub-Agency Secretaries have handled this volume of business.

How It Was Accomplished

A few bits culled from letters reporting these labors will make vivid the selling of Scriptures at country fairs, in markets, at pilgrim shrines, along travel routes, and wherever men congregate. A missionary from Kiangsi writes of his travels with one of the Society's colporteurs:—

At Market Towns

"I have made three trips out in the district. On one of these trips Mr. Li, the colporteur, and I went by wheelbarrow; and the first week, without planning it, we happened to strike a market day each day. Each county has about fifty market towns, with about fifty villages around each one. These towns have market every three days, according to the Chinese calendar. For instance, 1-4-7, or 2-5-8, or 3-6-9; then the tenth is an off day, when the dealers go to the county to get stocked up. On market days the villagers crowd the market towns, and that is our opportunity to sell Gospels at a copper apiece; and they buy too, and carry them home and ask someone to read them to them, and all hear it; so that in one day's selling we may preach the gospel in thirty or forty villages. Mr. Li and I were so pleased with this providential striking of market days, that, thereafter, we planned to reach one each day during that trip. We averaged three hundred sales a day. One young man had opposed Mr. Li twice at fairs and markets; but we met him again, and he bought the four Gospels and the Acts and helped me sell to others; finally he gave me his address. So it pays not to get discouraged.

Mr. Wang, our district superintendent, was converted by reading a Bible portion.

"On the next trip we followed up by calling in the shops where we had formerly sold portions. We invited them to a meeting at night in the church, and tried to get them tied up to the Pocket Testament League. We gave a ten-cent pocket Testament to those who signed, and got their addresses, and we are now sending them the *Gospel Messenger* — a very aggressive evangelistic monthly in Chinese. The whole thing, — Testament, paper and postage, — cost about thirty cents Mexican per person per year, or seventeen cents American money, which is cheap; but we have to find some way to reach the people."

In Unevangelized Parts

A number of missionaries report aggressive work in unevangelized parts, as the following extracts from their letters show:

"We were able to get two colporteurs for places where no work had been done before." "Splendid times in the unevangelized regions of our district. Our men were well received everywhere in spite of the agitation caused by the students." "Recently our workers have succeeded in getting the Gospel portions into a very proud turbulent clan, who burnt all the Ninth Biola Band literature several years ago. The results of this renewed effort are not fully to hand, but a few families in the clan have put away their idols and are gathering together weekly to hear the living message."

In these days when there is so much to discourage, it is refreshing to get cheering and enthusiastic messages from the field. From Jungsteh we read, "Our Bibles are going fast, and we need more. We have been specially pleased, because several fine young men have been coming in to repeat Scripture, thus earning a Bible."

Here and There

A Nanchang missionary writes: "Our colporteur wants to spend the eighth month (Chinese) at Wangsheokong, on Sisan (near here), where the pilgrims go. It is the biggest opportunity of the year to sell portions. Could you send me 500 portions in addition to the regular order? I hope to go myself, to see they will be used right." From Shenchow: "The desire for Bible study among the officers continues. Many of the army women, also, are becoming interested." One more quotation from the forefront of the battle: "Kindly send me 5,000 Scripture portions like the samples sent. We have only three packages left. We are having good opportunities for preaching and selling books all over. The troublous times do not seem to hinder, but rather to further, the cause of the Lord. It is his work, and he makes it prosper. Blessed be his name."

Mr. Hoose of Peking writes that, although the city bookstores report "there simply is no business for us this fall," yet the usual call for portions persists. "The men seem to be alive to the opportunity

of getting the little books into the hands and hearts of the populace. We have had six colporteurs part of the time, five the remainder. These men have been supplied with portions and kept busy; so busy they have had little time for reporting. These men have distributed a total of 35,360 portions since June first."

Mr. Burkwall, writing from Canton of many discouraging conditions, says, "Colportage in the interior, in the markets and villages, is very encouraging. But the colporteur must move about; he cannot expect to do much by standing in one place any length of time."

On the Western Frontier

Mr. Torrance, who never wearies of pioneering in the far western mountains bordering on Tibet, writes:

"The past year has been no exception to the rule of trying to reach the neediest parts of the province. In the far west the ground has been systematically covered. By the help of the Rev. J. C. Jensen, of the American Baptist Mission, books were sent to every center where it was possible to have them circulated. His report of the work is inspiring. He tells of how a Bible found its way into a home in a wild, robber district, and how it so illuminated the heart of a woman, that she sent for more copies in the hope it would save some of the desperadoes from their evil occupation. Beyond this wild district lies a region called the Kienchang Valley. Knowing no work was done, or likely to be done in the major part of it, I sent two colporteurs there this last spring. It was a long, hazardous journey of fifteen days' duration. They visited the city of Yuehsi adjacent to the Lolo border. Here they did fine work; several men were interested. They left Testaments, catechisms, and other Christian literature besides the 3,500 Gospels they sold. They found their way likewise into a lateral neighborhood among the tribesmen, staying in their homes and conducting gospel meetings.

"The Lolos are a tall, fierce aboriginal race that live independent of Chinese rule. Their religion is a mixture of monotheism and superstition. The Chinese fear them because of their periodic plundering, kidnapping forages into the valley. Their territory lies in that part of Szechwan like a long narrow oval. Across it, perhaps less than a hundred miles, lies the city of Mapien. But no Chinese dare pass through. The only way from Yuehsi to Mapien is by a detour of a seventeen-day march. One of the colporteurs went to Mapien. The last three days is so dangerous that on two former occasions a man sent lost courage and turned back. But this brave messenger of the Cross went through. His self-sacrificing labors were again rewarded: before he left, several were won to an interest in the truth.

"On the Szechwan-Kansu border the Rev. W. B. Williston has been unsparing in his labors to reach all classes. He has circulated 16,000 Gospels through that vast mountainous region. A better man

for that kind of all-round work could not be found. The hillmen swarm round him. He is preacher, father, counselor, and teacher all in one to them. All find free house on their visits to him. The only thing holding a greater success back is limitation of funds. But he writes hopefully of the present opportunities, saying:

"I recently had a fine trip to the tribes. Their chief has made it known that he advises them to believe the gospel, and asked me to go and preach to his people at the autumn roll call. This is quite a change and a victory, for he once opposed us so. *This fall again the tribes have agreed, at my request, not to plant opium.* [Italics ours.—Ed.] In regard to colportage, two men have been out all year. East we covered Chienchow, Tsitong, and Chiangin, three unopened cities on the Big North Road. No one has been to the first two for three years. One day in Chiangin they sold 30,000 cash worth of books. To the west we went to Songpan, and tribes; north to the Kansu border; and south to Shihchuan-hsien border. While we can report no startling conversions, still we see an increasing interest, which leads me to feel that the time is not far off when there is going to be an ingathering; for the books are being studied and read by people in their homes. Our sales to June first exceeded the whole of 1925, and for two months we have had no books; but this week your shipment came in from Shanghai. Last Sunday the teachers from the government school came in a body to church and asked for books. I am convinced that colportage, followed up by continual Bible schools for interested inquirers, is the work we should give our best efforts to in the present day.'

"Coming to the general work of colporteurs and voluntary helpers, only unstinted praise can be given to one and all. They are the ones who have done the bulk of the work. Bible Society effort is largely a 'soldier's battle'; they are thrown so often on their own resources.

Direct Fruit of Scripture Distribution

"The palm for the greatest results goes to Mr. Chou, who won it last year. His field has mainly been in the east, working the empty spaces between the American Methodist Episcopal stations. He hands in a list of forty-three names of men he has introduced through his labors to various churches there. Mr. Chang's list gives the names and addresses of nine. Mr. Hou, a voluntary worker, likewise forwards the names of nine. Mr. Wang, a China Inland Mission evangelist, reports five men and three women won by the sale of Scripture portions. Mr. Yuin, a doctor, describes the cases of three converts brought in in this way. One is a student who received a tract at the same time as he secured his Gospel. Mr. Hsia Hsi-chou, a pastor, writes of five persons who have become members of his church through first reading the Scriptures. Two are men from a place five miles distant, who now want a preaching hall opened near their own homes; one man nearby who bought a Scripture portion and

came right away to worship; a woman who was once an opposer of the truth, but when she read the Scriptures had her eyes opened. The fifth is a man who bought a set of Gospels because they were cheap; he could not thoroughly understand them, which circumstance brought him to the church for instruction. He then bought a whole Bible, and finally was baptized. At the China Inland Mission outstation of Tsongkingchow a whole family have been saved by a Gospel. The husband broke off opium smoking, and his wife and family believed also the good news. The difference in their new life is apparent in their regular attendance at church."

A missionary writes from Shensi: "Many thanks for your Bible portions sent to us last year, 2,500 copies; they are all sold. We had a very interesting time this Chinese New Year. We were out in many groups distributing your Gospels. Our city was divided in four parts, one group thoroughly visiting each home and shop, selling books and inviting to our meetings. One tent in the midst of the city was the center of our work. Several other groups entered into the country, some in carts going often more than ten miles. A company of three went out on bicycles, distributing your Bible portions. May God bless the read Word."

On the South East

From Fukien we have this interesting report: "Our Chinese pastors are finding very ready sale for the Scripture portions in the village churches; also among the day-school children. We are asking them to have the children and church members find the text of the service and read and mark it; also to mark their memory verses. In this way the portionettes have been sold without any special trips or effort. The proceeds from the sales we are putting into the regular church collection in each place. The pastors are very glad to get these attractive booklets, and usually sell them in sets of five." It might be added here that the rapid increase in the reading of "Mandarin"—the national language—throughout the Hinghwa region has greatly facilitated the sale of Scripture portions.

The Rev. N. C. Tai, of the Southern Methodist Church in Kiangsu, tells of his voluntary colporteurs who started to sell Gospels every morning in the tea houses of Sungkiang. "These books," he says, "were sold to the educated class, and when the gospel was preached some received it gladly. Every afternoon the workers went to the crowded temples, and monasteries to sell portions. Though some anti-Christians argued with them, yet their enthusiasm did not wane. Mr. Hsu Siao-yuan, one of the most earnest, with a deep faith in God, argued skilfully against these heretical attacks; with the result that some opponents were converted and came to join the church. Mr. Hsu is over seventy years of age. When surrounded and attacked, he gave a fearless testimony and begged his persecu-

tors to come to Jesus. He sold a total of 2,975 books during the first part of the year."

In the North—Mr. Strong and Mr. Hoose

These snapshots of everyday life can be taken from every province in China. Our orders from Manchuria have multiplied many-fold during the year, partly as a direct result of advertising, and partly through the personal contacts established by Mr. Lin in the summer conferences. The circulation for the North China field shows a slight increase, in spite of the transfer of our sub-Agency Secretary, Mr. W. S. Strong, to new labors as the Society's representative in Cairo. Mr. Strong has done an outstanding piece of work, building up, not only the interest, but the cooperation of a loyal company of Chinese pastors and evangelists who supervise the distribution of portions from many chapels and churches. This field "eats up" over a million copies of Scriptures each year. He it was who years ago tied up the heart and purse of Mr. Frank Yung Tao to Bible Society work, and who put through with General Chang the large contracts previously referred to. We are fortunate to have secured the Rev. Earl A. Hoose as Mr. Strong's successor. Mr. Hoose has been a Methodist missionary for over ten years, and long ago attracted our attention as an especially successful distributor of Scriptures in the regions in which he superintended churchwork. He makes his bow to his new friends in these paragraphs:

"We approach this report with mingled emotions. Our predecessor has written the annual report for this sub-Agency for so many years that we hesitate to follow in his footsteps. He has built up a work in this section of the country that the Bible Society may be proud to own. It is hard to follow a successful and popular man, as people must needs make some comparisons. Everyone speaks highly of Mr. Strong and of his work, and he has left many friends in Peking and vicinity for the Bible Society; we find them on every side. The great field that he has built up that calls for its supply of Bibles and portions amazes us. He must have kept much in touch with those who distribute to the people the Word of the living Lord, and made them feel that he was here to serve their wants and supply them with the book that is the Word of life and revealer of truth and love.

"I came to Peking in September with my family. All the knowledge possessed of the work was through the letters from Peking and the Agency Secretary in Shanghai. Having visited the capital city twice, I knew something of the place, but nothing of the Bible Society's work here. I was told it was the Agency distributing the largest number of books to its constituency. I was also told that, as the capital city of China, it was a very important place from the standpoint of influence on the life of the Republic's leading men.

And I was also told there were new buildings to be erected. I like a difficult task. These seemed to offer something in the way of difficulties. It has been said, 'The true test of a man's religion in China is to oversee building.' My release from the Kiangsi Mission was secured for a period of three years to undertake some of these difficulties."

Around Hankow

From our Hankow office the Rev. Godfrey Hirst left for furlough in the middle of the year. We have since then had the assistance of the Rev. Ingvald Daehlin and the Rev. Bendik Nokling, of the Lutheran United Mission, who have added to their responsibilities in connection with the Lutheran mission's bookstore a helpful supervision of the Bible depot. The advance of the Nationalist army reached Hankow early in September, and military movements with political revolution have had a naturally disturbing effect upon the circulation of Scriptures. Yet, it is worthy of note that over a million portions were distributed from this base during the year. It may be added that, although the evacuation of the British Concession did not occur until early in January, 1927, our office work has not been interrupted, and Mr. Nökling and Mr. Ho have remained at their post throughout all the excitement and unrest. We have the advantage of being located in the old Russian Concession, which for some years has been under Chinese control.

About Canton

The situation in the region surrounding Canton has made work anything but easy for our representative, the Rev. H. O. T. Burkwall. There has been a succession of strikes, many churches and mission institutions have been embarrassed, and some of them closed, and travel has been very difficult. He writes: "Voluntary colportage has done little, as travel is too dangerous, and there is too much labor agitation in the city to induce the ordinary church member to risk insult and violence in the streets upon presenting a Gospel for sale to a passer-by. We can only carry on in the hope that better conditions may soon return." Yet, good sales on a commission basis have been made by colporteurs visiting schools and churches, and Bible Sunday is becoming a day of general observance in the churches.

In Szechwan

So, also, in Szechwan the anti-Christian attacks and political unrest have had an adverse effect upon the circulation of Scriptures. Activity along this line has by no means ceased, and a section from the report of the Rev. T. Torrance, our representative in this great western area, well illustrates the joys and trials, and the varied activities and results connected with Bible Society work. "The year 1926 will live long in the memories of missionaries in Szechwan as one of the most perplexing in the history of mission work. We be-

gan with uncertainty, yet the work went ahead with a rush until the summer; then there occurred the terrible tragedy of the murder of Mrs. W. E. Sibley in the streets of Chengtu, with its inevitable setback. In September we were beginning to overcome the reaction and were looking forward eagerly to a good autumn's work, when a military incident upset all our plans. The Wanhhsien affair resulted; at Chengtu, in a series of disorderly strikes and in virulent propaganda directed against missions and missionaries. For a time the Union University was closed. Finally all servants were directed to leave our employ, and no one was allowed to sell us any food. It looked as if we would be forced to leave. At the mention of this the better classes took fright, seeing what it involved for themselves. Soon such strong protests were lodged against this barbarous treatment of unoffending men and women, that our enemies for very shame had to desist. For once their favorite cry of patriotism was openly disbelieved. So at the end of the year mission work is again going forward.

"Looking back on our twelve months' chequered experience, the first feeling is one of thankfulness that we have accomplished what we have. The second is one of confidence in that the mass of the people, if we except one or two districts, have remained distinctly friendly. What has been done will last. We thank God who gave us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. In the words of the eighty-third Psalm, though our enemies took crafty counsel against us; though with one consent they said, 'Let us take to ourselves the houses of God in possession,' yet they were confounded, that all 'might know that He whose name is Jehovah is the most high over all the earth.'

"One of the posters represented the Bible and Mark's Gospel as among China's shames. Another poster likened the Scriptures to an auger that killed men by boring its way into their vitals. What a distortion of facts! Over against this wicked calumny read the following testimony of Dr. G. E. Hartwell, of the United Church of Canada Mission, who came to China thirty-three years ago. He writes: 'Of all the wonderful achievements of the past fifty years none will equal in importance the spread of mission work in China. In Szechwan the more intensive and widespread activities are scarcely older than the present century. Within the memory of the present generation Christianity was little more than a name; at that a name often despised. To-day the gospel story is slowly working its way into every hamlet and house. So marvelous has been the influence of Bible instruction, that already the cry is, 'These that have turned the world upside down have come hither also.'

The Power of the Word

The Christian Church has used many different agencies to evangelize the people, such as building churches, schools, colleges, hospi-

tals, dispensaries, etc., but all have centered around the circulation of the Word of God. "After over thirty years of work among the Chinese I can bear testimony that, in my experience as a pastor and as an itinerant preacher, no one agency has been as effective in sowing the gospel seed in homes, villages, and towns in the remote corners of this province, as the Bible Society. The very fact that it has an eye to the noble object of placing in the hands of Szechwan's fifty or sixty millions of people the whole or a portion of the Holy Bible, is proof that it assumes an unique responsibility that could not be undertaken by any other existing institution. The fruits of the work done by the Bible Societies, through their faithful colporteurs, are manifested in the lives of many of the most earnest Christians and leaders. A Chinese doctor was passing a chapel, and, attracted by the singing, he came in. After the service, an invitation was given for any who wished to inquire about the way, to remain. He did so, became an inquirer, then a church member, and finally one of the most effective, soul-saving evangelists that I have known. His experience was that he had bought in a distant place a Gospel from a colporteur. He had read the book and was strangely moved by the story of Jesus, but had not heard more until he entered the chapel and recognized that the Jesus held up as the Saviour of men was the same he had read about. No other institution, as now organized, can take the place of the Bible Societies. Supporters of these institutions may well rejoice and be confident that their investments are worthily placed.'

"Anyone who reads Dr. Hartwell's letter will immediately realize that it is our very success that raises the fury of our adversaries to such a pitch."

Seven and a Quarter Books Every Minute

Mention should be made of the rather rapid increase in our circulation of portions in eastern China, which has mounted this year to almost a million copies. The three colporteurs working under missionary supervision in this field have had large sales, but the bulk of work has been done by voluntary workers directed by the pastors and evangelists among whom the Rev. T. H. Lin has done persistent and fruitful work. The headquarters' staff continues to handle this large volume of work, which now equals that of a major sub-Agency, in addition to the manufacturing and general distribution responsibilities, which have reached really huge dimensions in recent years. Were the office to work day and night three hundred and sixty-five days in the year, our steady output of Scriptures would be at the rate of seven and a quarter books every minute, or 435 books per hour. Figuring only on the working hours of working days, our total distribution in China has been at the rate of thirty-five books a minute.

Nor have we even approached the completion of our task. There

are still multitudes who have never been reached with the gospel. There are vast frontier fields in which the seed has not yet been sown. There are still groups here and there along the borderlands who speak a language into which the Scriptures have not yet been translated. Mr. F. D. Learner, writing of his work in far Kansu, tells of a tribe in his field whose language has never yet been reduced to writing. Mr. Torrance, who has been a pioneer among the Chiang people, reports an interesting discovery, which he has recently made. He says:

"Ga-gee Je-dsu"—A Startling Discovery

"During July and August it was my privilege once more to visit the Chiang tribesmen in our northwest. To one who can stand the mountain climbing this is ever an exhilarating experience. I had intended being in time to witness the summer sacrifice, but a temporary official ban on traveling delayed me till this was impossible. Nevertheless, compensations came. In several places I was fortunate enough to meet the priest of the grove and explain the meaning of their time-honored ritual in the life and work of Jesus Christ. I have told you before how in my researches I was the first to discover their Jewish-like worship. On this visit I made another remarkable discovery. You will remember that they use a sheet of white paper in their houses and a white stone on the housetop as emblematic of the divine holiness. I now found that a roll of white paper is carried to the altar as prophetic of the fact that God would send from heaven a man to be the real sacrificial sin-bearer. I could scarce believe my ears when I heard this. Once I was told and made more inquiries, priest after priest assured me that it was even so. They showed me the roll itself. Every year, they explained, a new or fresh white sheet of paper was added to it. So definite is this significance of the white roll, that a human likeness or figure made of reddish grass was inserted in the heart of it. The man sent from heaven was to die for men's sins. Within recent times this was changed for a skull, a miniature monkey's skull being chosen to preserve, presumably, its nonbulk appearance. I made careful inquiries if this substitution of a skull was really a recent innovation, and I was assured it was.

"The name given to the roll, which is ten inches long by five in diameter, is Ga-gee Nee-dsu; more often Nee-dsu. In two places it is Je-dsu. Ga-gee means my own or mine,—my Nee-dsu. I have now a roll in my possession, bought from the family of a deceased priest. The priests were astonished to hear that the sound of the name of their sin-bearer was not far removed from ours,—Jesus. They have no explanation to offer of the origin of the custom; it is simply a time-immemorial one. To the Christian, however, the coincidence to Psalm 40:6-7 is very striking: 'Sacrifice and offering

thou didst not desire.' 'Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume (roll) of the book it is written of me.'"

What a world of difference there is between these mountaineers of the far northwest and the seething tumult of a nation in revolution, as described in other parts of our report! The broad reach of our work is further suggested by the language table, which shows that we have distributed the printed Word in twenty-three languages and dialects, including on the one hand Greek and Arabic, and on the other, Tibetan, Mongolian and Siamese, with Russian, Japanese, Welsh and several European languages in the list. These facts may put a little romance into the tables of circulation figures that follow:

Total Circulation of Scriptures in China for 1926

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
American Bible Society.....	19,874	*47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393
British and Foreign Bible Society	26,221	51,572	4,064,614	4,142,407
National B. S. of Scotland.....	2,881	1,921	2,751,530	2,756,332
1926.....	48,976	101,091	10,570,065	10,720,132
1925.....	50,039	122,272	10,995,028	11,167,339

Decrease..... 1,063 21,181 424,963 447,207

* Of these, 5,150 copies were issued for account of the Million Testaments for China Campaign.

Comparison of Circulation for 1925 and 1926

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
For 1925.....	18,736	49,456	3,666,285	3,734,477
For 1926.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393
Increase over 1925.....	1,138	.....	87,636	.....
Decrease from 1925.....	.....	1,858	.....	.....
Net increase over 1925.....	.....	.....	.....	86,916

Details of Circulation for 1926

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Sales by depositories.....	14,585	42,423	95,981	152,989
Sales by correspondents (voluntary workers).....	5,093	4,925	3,305,224	3,315,242
Sales by colporteurs.....	.....	.....	346,309	346,309
Total sales.....	19,678	47,348	3,747,514	3,814,540
Donations at depositories.....	196	250	6,407	6,853
Total circulation.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393

Total Circulation of the China Agency

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Total
Prior to 1926.....	331,535	1,340,531	39,928,975	41,601,041
For 1926.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393
Total circulation by the China Agency.....	351,409	1,388,129	43,682,896	45,422,434

Reports from the Field

SOUTH CHINA SUB-AGENCY

Sub-Agency Secretary, H. O. T. Burkwall, acting (B. and F. B. S.)

Place of residence, Canton

TABLE OF CIRCULATION

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Sales by sub-Agency Secretary.....	112	718	182	1,012
Sales by correspondents.....	502	1,370	27,482	29,354
Sales by colporteurs.....	....	....	9,500	9,500
Total sales.....	614	2,088	37,164	39,866
Donations.....	1	25	432	458
Total circulation.....	615	2,113	37,596	40,324
Circulation 1925.....	836	1,641	35,086	37,563

WEST CHINA—WESTERN SZECHWAN SUB-AGENCY

Sub-Agency Secretary, Thomas Torrance

Place of residence, Chengtu

TABLE OF CIRCULATION

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Sales by sub-Agency Secretary.....	265	724	6,049	7,038
Sales by correspondents.....	113	50	274,130	274,293
Sales by colporteurs.....	....	....	44,956	44,956
Total sales.....	378	774	325,135	326,287
Donations.....	1	....	20	21
Total circulation.....	379	774	325,155	326,308
Circulation 1925.....	541	784	373,111	374,436

WEST CHINA—EASTERN SZECHWAN SUB-AGENCY

Sub-Agency Secretary, Thomas Torrance, acting

Place of residence, Chungking

TABLE OF CIRCULATION

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Sales by Sub-Agency Secretary.....	150	282	37	469
Sales by correspondents.....	....	....	164,999	164,999
Sales by colporteurs.....	....	....	62,700	62,700
Total Sales.....	150	282	227,736	228,168
Donations.....	26	....	....	26
Total circulation.....	176	282	227,736	228,194
Circulation 1925.....	150	226	241,966	242,342

CENTRAL CHINA SUB-AGENCY

Sub-Agency Secretary, Godfred Hirst

Place of residence, Hankow

TABLE OF CIRCULATION

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Sales by sub-Agency Secretary..	2,186	18,112	73,684	93,982
Sales by correspondents.....	165	129	929,948	930,242
Sales by colporteurs.....	....	....	43,598	43,598
Total sales.....	2,351	18,241	1,047,230	1,067,822
Donations.....	8	33	1,103	1,144
Total circulation.....	2,359	18,274	1,048,333	1,068,966
Circulation 1925.....	4,691	19,329	1,190,764	1,214,784

NORTH CHINA SUB-AGENCY

Sub-Agency Secretary, Earl A. Hoose

Place of residence, Peking

TABLE OF CIRCULATION

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Sales by sub-Agency Secretary..	7,467	13,066	372	20,905
Sales by correspondents.....	538	295	1,159,482	1,160,315
Sales by colporteurs.....	....	.....	67,280	67,280
Total sales.....	8,005	13,361	1,227,134	1,248,500
Donations	1	1	1,886	1,888
Total circulation	8,006	13,362	1,229,020	1,250,388
Circulation 1925.....	3,147	5,403	1,236,802	1,245,352

EAST CHINA—SHANGHAI HEADQUARTERS

Missions Building

23 Yuen Ming Yuen Road

TABLE OF CIRCULATION

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Sales at depositories.....	4,405	9,521	15,657	29,583
Sales by correspondents.....	3,775	3,081	749,183	756,039
Sales by colporteurs.....	....	.....	118,275	118,275
Total circulation.....	8,180	12,602	883,115	903,897
Circulation 1925.....	9,141	21,855	588,065	619,061

**Details of Circulation for 1926 by the Society's Sub-Agency
Secretaries**

FROM THEIR DEPOSITORIES

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
SOUTH CHINA				
Canton—H. O. T. Burkwall (acting).....	112	718	182	1,012
WEST CHINA				
Chengtu—T. Torrance.....	265	724	6,049	7,038
Chungking—T. Torrance.....	150	282	37	469
CENTRAL CHINA				
Hankow—G. Hirst.....	2,186	18,112	73,684	93,982
NORTH CHINA				
Peking—E. A. Hoose and W. S. Strong.....	7,467	13,066	372	20,905
EAST CHINA				
Shanghai Headquarters.....	4,195	9,471	15,201	28,816
Hinghua, Fukien	210	50	456	776
Totals by depositories.....	14,585	42,423	95,981	152,989

BY CORRESPONDENTS (VOLUNTARY WORKERS)

REPORTING TO THE AGENCY DIRECT AND THROUGH THE SUB-AGENCIES

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
SOUTH CHINA				
Canton.....	502	1,370	27,482	29,354
WEST CHINA				
Chengtu.....	113	50	274,130	274,293
Chungking.....	....	.....	164,999	164,999
CENTRAL CHINA				
Hankow.....	165	129	929,948	930,242
NORTH CHINA				
Peking.....	538	295	1,159,482	1,160,315
EAST CHINA				
Shanghai.....	3,775	3,081	749,183	756,039
Totals by correspondents.....	5,093	4,925	3,305,224	3,315,242

BY NATIVE COLPORTEURS
REPORTING TO THE AGENCY DIRECT AND THROUGH THE SUB-AGENCIES

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
SOUTH CHINA				
Canton.....			9,500	9,500
WEST CHINA				
Chengt'u.....			44,956	44,956
Chungking.....			62,700	62,700
CENTRAL CHINA				
Hankow.....			43,598	43,598
NORTH CHINA				
Peking.....			67,280	67,280
EAST CHINA				
Shanghai.....			118,275	118,275
Totals by native colporteurs.....			346,309	346,309

Total Sales

BY DEPOSITORIES, CORRESPONDENTS AND COLPORTEURS

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Depositories.....	14,585	42,423	95,981	152,989
Correspondents.....	5,093	4,925	3,305,224	3,315,242
Colporteurs.....			346,309	.....
Total sales.....	19,678	47,348	3,747,514	3,814,540

Donations

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Totals
Depositories.....	196	250	6,407	6,853
Total sales.....	19,678	47,348	3,747,514	3,814,540
Total circulation 1926.....	19,874	47,598	3,753,921	3,821,393

Conclusion

This report began with a word of hope; it should close with a word of praise. Yet in every paragraph, as it has been written, there has been both hope and praise. From Szechwan in the west and Fukien in the south comes word that churches are being attacked and missionaries are being called in by their consuls to the coast. We see the preparations being made about us for military defense, and learn that our governments are rushing warships and marines to China. We bow in humiliation; China's supreme need is not guns, but God; and He can never be thrust into the hearts of the people on the point of a bayonet. The use of such force would, it seems, close the doors to missionary work for years to come. It is a dark hour. Ah, it would be dark, were we not building on foundations that are eternal. We recall the Scripture promise that the unshaken,—the spiritual,—shall be permanent. "Let us, therefore, be thankful that the kingdom given to us cannot be shaken, and so please God by worshipping him." We are reminded of Paul, waiting at Ephesus until Pentecost, "for a great door and effectual is opened, and there are many adversaries," and try to heed his admonition to the Corinthians, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all that ye do be done in love." It is thus that the Scriptures have been scattered; it is thus that the gospel message has been delivered. It must be thus, and thus alone, that we carry on to the end of the ages.



JAPAN

The Japanese Agency was established in 1876. From 1890 to 1904 Bible work in Japan was carried on as a joint Agency with the British and Foreign Bible Society and the National Bible Society of Scotland. With the beginning of the calendar year 1904, the Agency was divided, the northern portion of the country being assigned to the American Bible Society. The circulation during 1926 was 938,809 volumes, accomplished chiefly through 56 colporteurs and 86 correspondents. The whole circulation of the American Bible Society in Japan from the beginning amounts to 7,836,630. The Agency Secretary is the Rev. Karl E. Aurell, Ginza Street, Tokyo, Japan.



HIS Agency shared the happy experience of the Society in 1926 as it did in 1925. Each year, in turn, registered the highest totals in the circulation of Scriptures and in the potential blessing to those served. The report opens with a very brief review of the jubilee celebration, and the fifty years of Agency work which were marked thereby. Who would have thought, back in 1876, that the Agency in fifty years would have circulated practically 7,000,000 volumes of Scripture in Japan? The testimony to the value of the Bible by a leading secular paper of Japan is noteworthy, even if it does but parallel testimonies from many nations through many centuries. The work of the colporteurs, set forth both in figures and in incidents, shows both real effort and welcome results. The "Literature of Power," as the Bible is called, has again justified this name, as illustrated by the many incidents of individuals reached and blessed by the Holy Spirit through the printed Word. Service to the Koreans in Tokyo, and to the general public in that capital city, as the year was closing, was indeed a happy crowning of the jubilee year.

THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The story of the Japan Agency for 1926 may well begin with an account of its Jubilee Celebration.

In the first regular annual report of the Japan Agency which Dr. Gulick, the first Secretary, rendered, a table of circulation of Scriptures indicates that organized Bible work was carried on from

1874. But, as the American Bible Society had had no regularly appointed Secretary in charge until January, 1876, the Agency was not regarded as established until then. Operating in full from the beginning of 1876, the first fifty years' activity of the Agency were really completed with the close of 1925. For various reasons, however, the jubilee celebration was not observed until 1926.

After considerable consideration it was decided to do two things: First—bind all Scriptures in Japanese for circulation this year in specially attractive covers as jubilee editions; secondly—hold celebration meetings some time in the fall in Tokyo. It was difficult to fix dates for the latter which would not conflict with conferences and meetings of other Christian bodies. But “we were strengthened as the hand of the Lord our God was upon us” to carry out our decisions with good success. The following are, in part, extracts from accounts given in the Tokyo press.

The Official Meeting

“On the 15th of October the Okuma Hall, Tokyo, was the scene of a great meeting celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Japan Agency of the American Bible Society. The program carried out from 2 p. m. was full of interest from beginning to end. The American Ambassador, Mr. McVeagh, and the Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Ariyoshi, first delivered addresses which most appropriately centered the thoughts of all present on the superiority of the Bible and its power in Japan as in all countries the world over. The enthusiasm which these two speakers imparted to the meeting rose high as the necessarily shorter speeches followed in rapid succession by ten representatives of different groups of the Christian movement and one speaker for the press in Tokyo.”

The writer only regretted that this celebration had not been timed earlier in the year and two full days given to it; for at this half-day meeting every speaker was much handicapped by limitation of time. All the addresses were crammed full of good things, which would have made interesting reading had we space at our disposal for quoting them.

The Exhibition

Quoting further: “In a separate room an exhibition of rare things had been arranged. Upon entering it, about the first thing the eye fell on were large portraits of Gulick, Loomis, and Schwartz, who had served as Secretaries of the Agency in past years. Next a large chart which gave a significant view of how the circulation of Scriptures throughout the vicissitudes of the fifty years had remarkably advanced. Especially one could not but notice a phenomenal rise in the circulation since the great earthquake of 1923. There were rare scrolls of historical incidents of a general character relating to times before, as well as after, the restoration (1868); a copy of Gutzlaff's translation of a Gospel into Japanese, printed at Singa-

pore in 1837; Bettelheim's translation printed at Hongkong in 1854; a copy of Goble's translation (which was the first to be printed in Japan) printed in 1871, the language of which is amusing and interesting. There was also a copy of Nathan Brown's translation of the New Testament, together with a copy of the one which the first regular committee translated and published in 1880. Beside these there were a great many other old Bibles, including one Sino-Japanese, and Bibles in various languages. There were copies of the first tract by Goble, and old hymnlets. There was a large scroll, about the size of an ordinary door, on which a Bible seller of many years' standing had inscribed every word of the Japanese Bible. He was there himself to tell the visitors inspecting it, how and why it was done. He had spent the first three early hours each day for four years, using the finest penpoint available, under a strong magnifying glass, in the accomplishment of the task. Though unintelligible to the bare eye, nevertheless it was one of the things to which much attention was given because of the peculiar devotion and extraordinary labor it represented on the part of a very earnest and ardent lover of the Word of God. That did not complete the list. There were quantities of pictures illustrating practically everything relating to Bible Society work. The whole collection graphically portrayed the progress of Bible work and Christianity in this Empire."

The Popular Meeting

Three days later a mass meeting was held at the Aoyama Hall, attended by 1,400 persons. The chief speaker was the well-known social worker, the Rev. Kagawa. His topic was: "The Bible and Moral Revolution." It is hoped a translation of this address will appear during 1927. Another address on "The Bible and Japan's Civilization" was delivered by Dr. Chiba, of the Baptist Seminary, Tokyo. This meeting was concluded with the showing of part of a film on the Life of Christ. This, and the two addresses, brought home to every mind and heart anew the sublimity and magnitude of the love and the redemption of mankind by Him who is the sole subject of the New Testament. Our colporteurs, who in no small measure aided in making the celebration successful, were greatly enthused over the privilege they had of emptying case after case of the nice 20-sen Jubilee Testaments, which were carried away by the people who attended. The goodly number of 1,700 copies were sold.

Early Days

Although the Japan Agency was not founded until 1876, thirty-nine years previous to that time, we find that "the American Bible Society made a grant to the Rev. Dr. Gutzlaff, in China, in the hope that Gospels translated into Japanese by him might carry an appeal to the then unknown Empire of Japan. But the first words from America heard by the Japanese were the English words of the hymn, 'Before Jehovah's awful throne, ye nations bow with sacred joy.'

The Japanese could not understand these words, but they were mightily astonished at the music of the band upon the deck of Commodore Perry's flagship as it led with the tune 'Old Hundred' the singing of a thousand manly voices engaged in divine worship on a Sunday morning in July, 1853. Fully six years passed after Perry's first visit to Japan, before the treaty with the United States was ratified. Then only could foreigners venture to live in Japan. The objection of the old feudal system to any breaking down of the wall of exclusiveness was like the objection of a bat to the rays of the sun. Happily some Japanese preferred the sun."

In 1859, four American missionaries finally arrived at Yokohama. It is interesting to notice that at this time again the Board in New York demonstrated that it was determined not to overlook Japan. A large English Bible was sent with Dr. Hepburn for presentation to the Emperor. These missionaries were instantly confronted with the need of Bibles for the missions. There was no part of the Bible in Japanese except a few portions translated by Dr. Bettelheim on the Loo Chu Islands, which had been printed by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge. Application was made at once to the American Bible Society for aid. From that time the Society sent funds; also Dutch, Chinese, and English Bibles in ever increasing quantities.

The Agency Secretaries

By 1875 the work, including translation, had become more than the missionaries felt they could take care of besides their regular missionary activities, and, upon their urgent request, the Board in New York appointed Dr. Luther Gulick as secretary to take full charge of the American Bible Society work in both China and Japan. He arrived at Yokohama in January, 1876. He served five and a half years until 1881, when his full time was required for the growing work in China. Dr. H. Loomis was appointed to succeed him in Japan. He had come to Japan in 1872 as a Presbyterian missionary and thus was quite suited to continue the work his predecessor so well had founded. Dr. Loomis served thirty long years, till 1911, when, owing to prolonged illness, he resigned. The Rev. H. W. Schwartz, M.D., a Methodist missionary of many years in Japan, attended Dr. Loomis in his illness. In the meanwhile Dr. Schwartz also looked after the affairs of the Agency. It was, therefore, quite in order that he should be asked to take charge of the Agency when Dr. Loomis retired. He served about five years, till 1916, when he was obliged to return to America to undergo an operation. After many months of suffering he was called to the Better Land for higher service. The writer, who had joined the Agency as field Secretary from the first of the year when Dr. Schwartz left Japan (1916), was asked to take charge. Outstanding features of the work and incidents of importance during the period of years of service rendered by each Secretary must be omitted.

Circulation of Five Decades

The following table gives the circulation of Scriptures for the fifty years summarized by decades:

1st Decade	333,170	volumes
2nd "	531,855	"
3rd "	984,486	"
4th "	2,157,428	"
5th "	2,988,187	"
Total	6,995,126	"

From the grand total of these figures, which have been gathered from the fifty Annual Reports of the American Bible Society, it appears that the circulation for the fifty years is very nearly 7,000,000 volumes. While this figure represents a gratifying achievement, one wonders how many people reflect upon that which led up to it and made it possible of accomplishment; namely, the matter of translation and publication. While it is true that the Bible Society itself did not do the actual work of translation and revision, it had the honor to provide a large part of the funds to defray the expenses, which amount to no small sum. Publication, however, required much thought and labor on the part of the men in charge and their Japanese coworkers. Remarks like these hardly touch this matter. However, we must pass on, thanking God for the privilege and honor the Society has had in the good work that has been accomplished. Ever so much still remains to be done.

The Agency has ever remembered the single reason for its existence; namely, to place the Holy Scriptures within reach of all. Beside selling—and that not at a profit—to those who have been able to buy, it has made grants of quantities and quantities of its missionary editions whenever calls for such consideration have arisen. It has lived up to the benevolent character of the Home Society. Take for example the closing year (1925) of its fifty years of organized activity. Onmitting the foreign Secretary's salary, the expenses over income in circulating 896,867 volumes of Scripture amounted to yen 52,081.44 or \$26,040.72. To ordinary business men a report of a year's business which shows a deficit like that is aggravating. Who makes it possible for the Agency to carry on like that? Needless to say, Bible lovers in America.

A Secular Paper on the Bible

That the Bible has made for itself a permanent place, and is appreciated, in Japan, is well brought out in an article of one of the best secular papers of the Empire. It says:

"As for the Bible, it is unique in literature, far above all other literary works, shedding its bright light over all for many centuries without losing its peculiar splendor as well as authority. The doctrine which the Bible carries all over the world is that of love, which is alive in the minds of the people who have accepted the doctrine;

and its life will continue to be a vital principle for mankind — just how many generations we cannot tell. We are gratified to note, moreover, that the Japanese versions of the Bible, both old and new, are exceptionally good among all sorts of translations, and are likely to maintain their dignity over the vernacular literature as long as the original Bible itself. This fine piece of literature will prove to be a mainstay of national thought against whatever radical change may set in in the future."

We who are publishing and circulating the Christian Scriptures in this day and generation realize that we are highly privileged in carrying forward this work, and we pray that nothing whatever may prevent us from speeding on with this wonderful Light, until it shines in every home and all other institutions throughout the whole Empire.

ACCOUNT OF THE REGULAR WORK FOR 1926

It is not necessary to repeat what the reader already has learned from newspapers and magazines relating to matters of a general character in Japan. Therefore this account will be limited to the work of this Agency for 1926.

First Things First

As in past years the first thing we did was to observe the important custom of holding our Bible Society Workers' Meeting. The two Christian workers from outside who were invited to come and address the meeting in any way the Holy Spirit would direct, delivered messages which were both very searching and most helpful. Added to these, the reports and prayers in the other sessions of our meeting prepared us, by the Lord's grace, to take up the year's work before us with renewed God-given faith, and determination not to fall short of what was accomplished the previous year.

As the result of last year's efforts had been undeniably great, we had a right to feel happy, not to say, elated. At any rate, we were encouraged to face the coming year with considerable enthusiasm, and to set the goal to be attained still higher.

We were not free from difficulties. Many of the workers had days of physical illness. Often human spirits trembled under adverse pressure. Yet all forged ahead in the God-given task, and we ended the year in triumph. Thank God!

Tremendous Activity at the Bible House

Because of the extra work the Jubilee celebration entailed, the staff at the Bible House this year was truly "in labours more abundant."

As we have not, as a rule, burdened our colporteurs in the field with general sales of Bibles and Testaments, but have taken care of that by other methods from the Bible House, the volume of corre-

spondence and output of circulars, etc., in order to keep in touch with the book trade, the missions, churches, schools, and other enterprises, has been a big work in itself, and the response that it met with usually has kept the staff busy. During the past year, however, as special offers of our missionary editions, in honor of our Jubilee, were well advertised, the staff has been doubly busy — in fact, to such an extent that other important work which should have been done has had to be postponed. Especially since the Jubilee celebration in October, which in itself was excellent publicity work, and as a result of the enthusiastic follow-up work we continued through the mail service, the Bible House was practically besieged with orders. Our binder fell behind with his part of the work and could not catch up, even though his employees worked day and night. One man's entire time was required for filling out issue-memo-slips and taking care of remittances. Every man had to help in the rush work of the packing and shipping department. As some one said, "every day one heard the hammer pounding nails from morning till evening." Every afternoon piles and piles of packages were taken to the branch post office near by, and one man of the ordinary forwarding agency was kept busy hauling away cases of many sizes to be shipped into all parts of our field. From the middle of November till the end of December we had a phenomenal output of the popular Jubilee 20-sen Testament — a total of 57,839 copies. In fact, this figure would have been larger, had the binder been able to get stock ready. We were obliged to close the year with many unfilled orders on hand to be carried over into the 1927 circulation.

The above is one big feature of the activity at the Bible House. Other important accomplishments belonging here will be mentioned under different headings.

Scriptures Printed and Purchased in 1926

PRINTED		PURCHASED	
Bibles	7,700	Bibles	1,163
Testaments	98,800	Testaments	869
Portions	1,004,650	Portions	2,524
Total	1,111,150	Total	4,556

The grand total of books published and purchased in 1926 was 1,115,706 copies. An increase over 1925 of 126,044 copies.

The Seiko (Star) Printing Company

The rise and development of the Seiko Printing Company since the great earthquake has been watched with profound interest, and the writer feels that a short account of it deserves our next attention in this report.

The proprietor was a member of the office staff of the former well-known Fukuin Printing Company at Yokohama. At the time of

the great earthquake he was in Tokyo and thus escaped being crushed and cremated together with his fellow-officials in the lamentable calamity which befell that institution. He, of course, keenly felt that God had spared him for some specific purpose — and rightly so. As bookbinding was his trade, — in fact the famous good binding of Scriptures the Fukuin Printing Company had turned out in past years was due to the efficiency and supervision of this man, — he made up his mind to establish a bindery of his own in Tokyo and aid the Bible Society to obtain what it so desperately stood in need of.

But, as a result of the earthquake, both he and his friends were penniless. He had no machinery, no tools, no quarters. It required a great deal of daring and determination to engage about fourteen of the remaining scattered employees of the former binding department of the old Yokohama Fukuin and start work in temporary quarters amidst ghastly ruins in Tokyo. However, this Agency, having discovered a considerable quantity of printed sheets outside of Yokohama, had plenty of work for him to begin with. For a few days, without machinery, the work was difficult and progressed very slowly. Then, fortunately, some suitable machinery which some one had in the outskirts of Tokyo was put at his disposal. By gradually increasing his staff he was then able to take care of our constantly and rapidly increasing work. Our printing, of course, was done elsewhere.

Being a clever businessman as well as master in his trade, he made progress from the beginning despite tremendous handicaps. The large volume of work this Agency soon was able to put in his hands, compelled him to acquire a site in a suburb of Tokyo on which he might build and establish his own plant. Soon he managed to install a fairly large press. In the course of another year, when the apparently resurrected Fukuin in Tokyo went to the wall, he enlarged his plant, installed still more machinery, and added a type-setting department.

To cut the account short, during 1926 he has been able to take care of all our printing, some of our type-setting, besides all our binding. On an average 55 employees have been kept busy. He has printed about 1,110,000 volumes of Bibles, Testaments, and portions for this Agency alone — which is nearly 97 per cent of the work he turned out during the year. One cannot but regard his achievement as most extraordinary and wonderful. What the Fukuin Printing Company was in reference to Bible production before the earthquake, the Seiko Printing Company is to-day, though necessarily on a smaller scale. One is reminded of the words in the Book of Esther 4:14 — “Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” It seems quite evident that the proprietor of this institution was spared to help us in the furtherance of the Bible cause in Japan at this time.

Circulation

The circulation for 1925 broke all records of the past—which was a most fitting achievement in rounding out the first fifty years of organized work. But the total circulation for 1926, being 938,809 copies, exceeded even that by 41,942 copies, which we regard as a very fine number of books with which to start the first year of the coming second cycle of fifty years of work in Japan. The following summary indicates how they were circulated.

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Braille	Total	Value, Yen
Sales by depository.....	8,931	94,316	32,176	229	135,652	70,571.78
Sales by colporteurs.....	660	17,131	641,925	352	660,068	26,153.45
Donations	494	1,110	127,771	53	129,428	4,953.33
Total direct circulation	10,085	112,557	801,872	634	925,148	101,678.56
Sold to other Bible Societies	143	2,921	210	92	3,366	3,467.18
Sent to Home Office.....	538	1,893	7,830	34	10,295	4,154.27
Total indirect circulat'n	681	4,814	8,040	126	13,661	7,621.45
Grand total	10,766	117,371	809,912	760	938,809	109,300.01

Comparison of Circulation

	Bibles	Testaments	Portions	Braille	Total	Value, Yen
Circulation in 1923..	10,134	56,962	276,492	.....	343,588	78,283 15
Circulation in 1924..	10,295	61,400	699,512	567	771,774	92,205 35
Circulation in 1925..	10,506	79,827	804,304	2,230	896,867	106,026 79
Circulation in 1926..	10,766	117,371	809,912	760	938,809	109,300 01
Increase over 1925	260	37,544	5,608	.....	41,942	3,273 22

Looking back over the last five years, we have a record of constant increased circulation for which to praise God. This gratifying advance is due to two things: The "open door and friendly attitude" of the people all over our territory toward Christianity; and the excellent, ever forward-looking spirit and activity of our workers—the staff at the Bible House as well as the colporteurs.

Table of Sales by Colporteurs

11	Colporteurs—full time	486,790	copies
2	" 10 months	52,199	"
9	" longer and shorter periods of time.....	102,936	"
	(The above 22 colporteurs sold only portions.)		
6	" sold all kinds of Scriptures.....	18,143	"
28	" in all—Grand total	660,068	"

Of our honor group of eleven full-time colporteurs Mrs. Suzuki, for the second time, merited the laurels for putting out the largest number of books—a total of 55,976 copies.

Of the 938,809 books circulated during the year the great majority—660,068 books—were sold by means of colportage. As indicated in the table above, 28 workers participated. About 103,100 tracts and leaflets were used. It is estimated that the workers traveled 30,000 miles in canvassing 447,462 homes and other institutions. The following table gives interesting details.

Table of Colporteur's Work

Number		People reached	Copies sold
264	Middle and higher schools.....	81,562	36,713
102	Higher girls' schools.....	36,633	35,615
77	Sewing schools.....	8,348	15,763
135	Grammar school teachers.....	2,638	14,091
57	Government offices.....	4,934	5,181
153	Other public offices.....	2,862	4,584
68	Banks.....	737	1,350
67	Post offices.....	1,988	3,159
84	Police quarters.....	1,581	4,784
43	Courthouses.....	493	1,013
184	Silk mills.....	37,604	75,627
96	Other factories.....	36,887	25,483
63	Firms.....	13,015	11,876
74	Railway stations.....	3,988	5,338
5	Army offices.....	2,540	495
17	Navy offices.....	15,110	6,231
16	Gunboats.....	7,090	3,887
10	Houses of ill fame.....	451	524
6	Temples.....	53	86
2	Shrines.....	5	15
2	Buddhist schools.....	290	480
18	Hospitals.....	340	853
4	Churches.....	.....	625
19	Other institutions.....	729	1,874
1,566	Total.....	259,878	306,647
445,896	Ordinary houses.....	2,200,000	353,421
447,462	Grand total.....	2,459,878	660,068

Incidents in Colportage

Let us present the whole number of colporteurs as one man and follow him as he visits at institutions, in town and village, where human beings are likely to be:

He arrived at a temple. Many people were there, apparently in conference with the priest. One of the men met him and exclaimed, "Christian books? Why, man, you ought to know this is no place for selling such!" After a few words, he asked that he might see the priest. "The priest? He ought not want a book like that." The worker replied, "That may be so, but our rule is to not overlook anybody, no matter who he is." The priest, having heard the conversation, came to the entrance and smiled as he greeted him. While conversing the priest bought the four Gospels and Acts, and finally remarked, "I am much impressed with your earnestness in Christian work. You are doing fine and are worthy of imitation."

He came to a restaurant. Found four or five young men talking together about a public meeting. He discovered they were graduates of an industrial school, the principal of which formerly was his friend. This immediately led to a visit to the principal, who gave him opportunity to speak about the Bible to the students, resulting in the sale of 1,050 portions in that one institution.

About the first place he arrived at one morning was a railway station. The station master had just gathered the employees for a few minutes' admonition. Ten minutes were given to the colporteur, which he gladly improved. The twenty-one men who listened to him with the best of attention became eager in wanting his books, and he had the pleasure of leaving 85 copies in their hands.

It was a rainy day, so he went to a silk-thread factory. It happened to be a holiday season, and the manager felt it was useless to try to sell books there now. Yet, as there were many girls in the dormitory, the colporteur pleaded for an opportunity to speak to them. Finally it was arranged so that he might speak before breakfast in the morning. He prayed earnestly to God for a blessing upon this arrangement, and next morning went to the dormitory before 7 o'clock to await the opportunity to speak. About 150 girls gathered, and he was supernaturally blest. Many of the girls wept. The whole supply of 500 Gospels were sold at once, and an additional lot of twenty copies sent over later.

Having returned to his lodging house, after a day's work, about 6 o'clock, a man called and asked if he might see him. The colporteur was told that the man was an awful drunkard and troubled his family very much. However, the man was permitted to come into the room and the colporteur had a talk with him, quoting the Scripture to show him the folly of his life. After a few moments the man began to weep and said, "Do you think God cares for a wretch like me? and would he forgive my sins?" The promises of God were quoted, and they prayed together. The stranger then arose and went home and told his daughter what had happened to him. He asked her to get the wine flask and cup (which the Japanese usually have specially for drinking "sake") and come with him to the lodging place. Coming into the room of our worker, the man took the flask and cup and broke them into small pieces, exclaiming, "No more of that for me! I do not even want to hear or write the word 'sake' again!" And after further conversation and prayer they parted. It is hoped the Lord may keep this man from falling.

On another rainy day he went to a girls' school. The principal allowed a meeting in the gymnasium. After a talk on the power of the Bible, he offered his portions. The girls practically rushed upon him and almost fought to obtain his books. The 500 copies he had were not half enough; so he went out and called in two fellow-workers from the neighborhood, who brought in their supply and every last book was taken, making a total of 1,736 copies that went into the hands of about 580 students. More could have been disposed of if at hand.

Great Success in a Stubborn Temple Town

Two colporteurs were assigned to a province in which a very famous temple was located. The town was known as impossible of Christian work. Christian workers had attempted it over and over again; but the opposition to, and hatred of, Christianity was so strong that sometimes it amounted to persecution. Our colporteurs prayed every day, as they drew near that town, that they might succeed to put a Gospel in every home, by which God's will and purpose with mankind might be made known to them. In July it was convenient for them to enter, and with courage and faith they marched

right in and began house-to-house work. To their surprise as well as joy, they met with a fine reception, putting 1,225 books in 812 houses, and 415 books in eight institutions, and 26 books in the very temple.

It was the first time anything like that had been done there, and we all thank God for the privilege of doing it at this time.

The Foolish Whom God Has Chosen

To many people it seems foolish to stand in public places with a large poster covered with Bible texts and stating the price of the New Testament. That is what Mrs. Hirahara does. In this quiet way her book sells itself. Sometimes as many as fifty or more copies a day are obtained from her hand by men and women representing all classes of the nation. The following incidents are two samples of what God accomplishes by this method:

Mrs. Hirahara went to the Asakusa Park a great many days during the year. Various jugglers and other salesmen had captured and jealously kept all advantageous places; so that she usually had to take a position somewhat distant from the main walks of the park. But she has implicit faith in the attracting power of the Word of God written on the poster she holds in one hand, and the New Testaments she carries in the other. Of course, she had a bag full of Testaments standing on the ground at her feet. She often quietly sang verses of hymns and spoke of the power of the book she was selling. One afternoon a young man bought a Testament and walked away. After a while he came back and read the words on her poster. He came back the third time and did likewise. Each time she could see that he was tremendously impressed.

In the evening when she left the park some one followed her and called. Turning to see who it was, she recognized the above-mentioned young man. As they slowly walked along, he told her a sad, sad story. When a mere child, he had lost his mother. The stepmother who had taken her place was awfully mean to him; so, finally, he ran away from home and came to Tokyo. Here he had roamed about for years. Nobody took any interest in him. He had no particular place to live. How he ever lived through these many years was a mystery! By this time life had become most serious. The world was an awful cold place to live in! He knew of no God to turn to; but, while in a stupor of intense despair, he happened to come by and see the words on that poster. And as he returned two or three times to read them over, a feeling crept into his heart that there is a God and that he cares for him. And now he wanted her to tell him more about God. That was an easy matter for her to do, because she lives and moves in the Spirit of God. The result is that that same evening he was wonderfully saved and is now daily praising God for salvation, while praying for the conversion of his father and other relatives.

A woman from the city of Nagoya, who had tried all the religions there are there, besides medical remedies, for healing of a physical malady of many years' duration, came to Tokyo for further search. Here she put her case before a mental scientist, but to no avail. Very discouraged, she decided to return to her home city. One day she took a walk through the famous Asakusa Park and came across Mrs. Hirahara standing in a certain place, gently singing. One sentence of what she sang seemed to be just for her, the literal meaning of which was: "If you come to Jesus, despair will be turned into joy." The discouraged woman was profoundly impressed and bought a copy of the Testament. Having talked together a bit, our Bible seller urged her to go to a certain mission for further instruction. The following day she went, and there she was led to the Healer of sin-sick hearts and was wonderfully converted. Her bodily affliction also was healed. At once she became a powerful witness for Christ and has decided to give her life to direct Christian work.

Night-fair Bible Seller

One night a young man who bought a Bible asked this Bible seller, "How can I get rid of my distress from sin?" She told him that, if he would come to her house, she would talk the whole matter over with him. About three days later he came and opened his heart to her. He had flung himself into the general life of the world to have, as he thought, a real good time. But he discovered it was a life of folly; and he looked back on it all with grievous regret. If there was no help for him, he wanted to die. Mrs. Hayashi was glad to be in a position to instruct him about the way to the Saviour Jesus Christ, of repentance and faith for the forgiveness of his sins. Then she urged him to go to a gospel hall close by for further instruction. He was wonderfully converted and is now a very happy member of the church.

One evening a man from a certain dispensary came and asked her how a man could be delivered from despair. She answered, "By simply putting faith in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord. I am sure of that." And then she impressed on him the importance of reading the Bible. The man willingly took her advice, bought a small Bible, and started to attend a church which she had directed him to. He was a seeker from the very beginning and soon accepted Christ as Mrs. Hayashi had urged him to do, and experienced what she had assured him he would.

Another evening a university student came and bought a Bible. He said, "I used to go to church, but never got any satisfaction out of it." Mrs. Hayashi answered, "You should have taken the Bible as guide for your faith. You looked to the minister and the church, and were dissatisfied. Bible Christians is what we should be." Those remarks started him to read the Bible, and he became a wonderful Christian. Being poor in health, he soon entered a hospital and is

there still. From occasional letters to Mrs. Hayashi it is clear he is going on in Bible faith. During 1926, Mrs. Hayashi has been privileged to lead six souls to Christ. There are no doubt many more, of whom she does not know, who have been influenced by her life and service in Bible selling, and have turned their feet into some mission or church.

The Literature of Power

A pastor held a service in an out-of-the-way mountain village. Having closed the service, he entered into conversation with a young man. The latter was quite ready to exercise faith in Christ as a personal Saviour and at once became a Christian. After it was discovered that the Gospel of Mark, which he had with him, had been used of the Holy Spirit to prepare him for the most momentous experience in his earthly pilgrimage.

The same pastor also reported that very recently another young man who began to attend church acknowledged that the Gospel of Mark as a "silent missionary" had done good work in his case. He said: "I received this book from a foreigner when I was about ten years old, and, learning that it was a Christian book, I somehow felt it ought to be preserved. And—it may seem funny to you for me to say so—because of possessing this book I had the feeling that I was closer to Christianity than others were in my community."

In a recent testimony meeting a station master, telling of how he became a Christian, said: "Many years ago I received the Gospel of Matthew from some one in Kumagaimachi (a large town in his province). I have moved about considerably since then, and every time I packed and unpacked my things that book seemed to refuse to be overlooked. Finally I began to read it, and, I gladly confess, it became the means of bringing me into this happy company."

Again, some years ago, a man in the rural district near the city of Shizuoka, received a New Testament. For years he took no particular interest in it. He had often gone through his collection to clean out and destroy books which he thought were of no special use to him nor to anybody else. But somehow he could not throw away that New Testament. Not long ago he commenced to read it and was deeply impressed, and was strongly moved to go to some church. The result is that today he is a member of a Methodist Church in the above-mentioned city. He is a man of about sixty years of age.

From our Letter Folders

Even a Cover Led to a New Testament. One day a letter containing a cover of one of the Gospels was received at the Bible House from a young man about fifty miles from Tokyo. The gist of it is as follows: "For a long time I have wanted to study Christianity, and I have wondered what book I should read and from where I could get it. One day by chance I picked up this cover and, to my joy, at last I found out what to do. I inclose the cover. Kindly send me

the New Testament which it says will be forwarded to any one who wants to read it."

Influenced by the Gospel of John. "I am one into whose hands, by some chance, the Gospel of John fell, and I am reading it every evening. Healing for the sufferer, happiness for the distressed, guidance into the right way for the wicked, and, though opposed and persecuted, the saints continue to love all people: all these things I am impressed with as I read. I wish that the evil in my own life might be removed. Inclosed please find 24 sen for the New Testament, and kindly send it at once."

Concluded to Study Christ. "I am very glad for the success your work is meeting with. The other day I wrote to the office of Newspaper Evangelism and in return received the Gospel of Matthew which you publish. I have read it with much interest and find deep meaning in it. Therefore I have concluded, as a young man, to study Christ and live my life in this world according to his teaching. Shall be grateful for anything that will help me in this respect. I inclose 24 sen for a Testament. Please to send it at once."

Born Again—Reading the New Testament. "Today I really began to know that God is. I wept for joy. I prayed to God and was born again. I fear nobody but God. I am teaching in a grammar school and, with the help of God, I will do all I can to guide these children in the right way. Really this is the happiest day I have had in my life. Although many things have happened, nothing has robbed me of my joy. Now I want an expensive nice Bible. Please to send it at once and oblige. One who is only a day old in the new life."

Unbearable Emptiness. "Of late a state of emptiness in my life has become unbearable. I have thought of all sorts of ways by which to fill this void within me, but have met with no success. Finally I have concluded to turn to the power of religion as the last resort; but it has been puzzling to know what religion to choose. At last I have decided for the universal one—Christianity. I am sorry to trouble you, but inclosed please find 24 sen, for which kindly send me a Testament immediately and greatly oblige."

Life Takes a New Meaning. "Some time ago, by chance, a small book called 'The Gospel according to St. Mark, Revised Version,' fell into my hands. I have kept it ever since and read it over and over again. By this time I am able to tell others the general meaning of it. But, rather than dwell on that, I desire to say that the more I read and ponder what is written therein, the more life takes upon itself a new meaning to me. After supper I often read it to grandmother and children, and talk about it, and they all listen with sincere attention and are influenced by its wonderful content. I wonder if this book is to be had in English. If so, I want it, to see if I cannot get still more out of it from reading it in English."

Gratefully Took Advantage of Our Special Offer. "Yesterday I

received the Testaments. Your kind plan for a wide distribution of the New Testament is greatly appreciated. It rejoices me to think of the good results that will surely follow. While quietly opening the box, I prayed that many people through these Testaments might know the will of God, and that their hearts may be filled with faith, hope, and love. And that shall be my unceasing prayer as I distribute these books."

Donations of Scriptures

To hospitals	17,320	copies
To the town of Numazu (burned down).....	1,200	"
For social work	4,000	"
To Salvation Army	8,500	"
For distribution among Koreans	1,525	"
For distribution on river boats	1,000	"
For summer preaching on beach at Kamakura	1,000	"
To blind	53	"
For distribution in Aino village	276	"
For Sunday schools in grammar schools	2,000	"
For prison work	572	"
To old people's home	100	"
For newspaper evangelism	7,600	"
For free distribution in Tokyo, December 30 and 31.....	80,000	"
Miscellaneous	4,882	"
Total	129,428	copies
Total value	4,953.33	yen

In the above total of 129,428 books donated (which is 43,814 books more than for the previous year) 494 were Bibles, 1,110 were Testaments, and 53 were Braille portions for the blind.

Of the many interesting and gratifying things about this particular work was the splendid cooperation on the part of organizations and individuals outside of the Agency. The pleasure they expressed over having Scriptures to put in with other things that were given away, and—in most cases—in distributing only Scriptures among people who otherwise would not obtain them, was a joy and inspiration to us.

We were happy to be in a position to make a grant for free distribution among the poor Koreans in Tokyo. During the year we have tried to have Testaments sold among them; but, even though they were very much wanted, the poor Koreans were absolutely unable to buy. We were told that some of them wept because they could not make even the cheapest Testament their own. About the middle of December, therefore, we cabled to Seoul for 500 Testaments and 1,000 portions in their language. They arrived very promptly and were distributed by Christian Koreans among their fellow-men between Christmas and New Year. The great gratitude with which those books were received was a return which money never could give!

It is reported that there are 70,000 Koreans in and around Tokyo and Yokohama. Many thousands of them would be glad to have a Testament. During 1927 we propose to put this blessed "silent missionary" in their homes and lodging places. It will require considerable funds, as we must order the books from Seoul. Reader,

pray with us that this important work "which we have a mind to do" may be accomplished.

Crowning the Jubilee Celebration

Generally speaking, 1926 was more or less a depressive year for this people. The death of the Emperor in the closing days of it made the ending of the year very gloomy indeed. We felt, therefore, that this was a peculiarly fitting time for us to do a special piece of work in the city of Tokyo. It would also crown the celebration of our jubilee. A slip of paper with a suitable message to the people at this time of the exchange of the years 1926 and 1927, and an offer of our popular Testament at a reduced price to any one who would mail the slip to the Bible House, or come in with it, was printed and inserted in about 80,000 portions. All our colporteurs were mobilized, and a two-day free distribution at about ten important points of the city was well planned for the last days of the year. Ten students from one of the Christian schools joined our workers in the accomplishment of it.

On the second day of this work the first letter we opened in the morning at the Bible House contained one of those slips with payment in stamps for a Testament, and during that day nearly a dozen other responses from that work were received. The Gospels containing those slips were carried out into far-flung regions of our territory, from whence we have received orders for Testaments almost every day ever since.

Conclusion

We thank God for the privilege of closing the old year also with this achievement. During the year, by various methods, we have succeeded in getting the Gospel bells widely distributed; and they have resounded in all sorts of places, and countless echoes have reached us at the Bible House in Tokyo. They have again proved to be the awakeners of spiritual life, the creators of lofty ideals, and messengers which bring souls into fellowship with Jesus Christ.

"And he (Jesus) said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; and should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how." — Mark 4:26, 27.

Let me conclude this report with a quoted prayer slightly changed: "Illumine hearts, O Spirit of God, that they may not miss the deep lessons of those pages, but read them beneath thine inspiration! May none be satisfied with the husk, but penetrate to the kernel, which nourishes the humble and contrite heart! In Jesus' Name."

MICRONESIA



URING the year 1926, the Society participated in the supply of Scriptures in the languages of twelve of the island peoples of Micronesia and the Pacific, besides being the source of supply for Scriptures in eleven languages and dialects used in the Philippines. The chief supply aside from that of the Philippine Agency was in Hawaiian, 463 volumes; Gilbert Islands, 215 volumes; and Javanese, 200 volumes. No details about the distribution have been reported by our correspondents.

AFRICA



SCRIPTURES were distributed by our Society in twenty of the languages and dialects of Africa in 1926. Zulu, as usual, was the language in which the largest number — 15,006 — were sent out for distribution. Some of the other languages in which the larger circulation took place were Bulu, 4,627; Sheetswa, 1,445; and Tonga, 800. A special incident of the year were the requests for Scriptures from the American Lutheran Mission and the Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Liberia. Grants were made in response.

Reference to the work of translation and revision of Scriptures in various African languages and dialects will be found in the Board of Managers' Report at the beginning of this volume.

AUXILIARY AND COOPERATING BIBLE SOCIETIES



THE year 1926 records a further decrease in the number of auxiliary and cooperative societies. For 1925 the list numbered 124. For 1926 it has fallen to 98. This is no doubt a continuation of the tendency of many years whereby churches that are constituents of local societies are more and more making their contributions through denominational channels. Nevertheless, those that continue on the active list have not faltered, and the income reported by the Treasurer of the American Bible Society from these cooperators amounted to \$22,937.97, a slight increase over last year. Several times this amount is raised by the societies, the larger part being spent to meet the needs within the areas for which they are directly responsible.

ALABAMA

The Alabama Bible Society, under the leadership of the Rev. W. J. Elliott, its superintendent, has rounded out its seventy-fifth year. Its circulation is reported at 29,008 volumes, 603 being donations, — an increase of nearly one-third in circulation. The total receipts for the year slightly exceeded \$17,500, the expenses being met within that sum.

CALIFORNIA

The California Bible Society has continued its services through the Pacific Agency. Its trustees continue, in their advisory capacity, to counsel with the Secretary of that Agency, and the report of the Pacific Agency covers the work of this auxiliary also.

CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut Bible Society has continued its services in that state under the direction of the

Rev. S. W. Raymond, its secretary. Details of its work are not available. The Haddam Auxiliary has contributed \$136, and the Sharon Auxiliary \$78.25, for the world work of the American Bible Society. The Middletown Auxiliary Bible Society contributed \$150 to this work, as well as carrying on a small amount of local work.

DELAWARE

The New Castle Female Bible Society contributed \$60 to the general work of the American Bible Society.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Washington City Bible Society carries on work with the National Capital Agency, and was represented by a stock of books at the office maintained at the Woodward Building, Washington, under the direct charge of the Secretary of the Agency.

ILLINOIS

The Chicago Bible Society maintains its operations within the bounds of the city of Chicago and Cook County. Its board of managers are actively helpful to the Secretary in charge of the Northwestern Agency in an advisory capacity, as an executive committee of the Agency. The Chicago Bible Society makes grants and sells the Scriptures at catalogue and reduced prices to mission workers in English and foreign languages. It gave to the parent Society for its general work \$253.86.

The Randolph County Bible Society has continued its good work by sending an increased contribution of \$600 to the parent Society.

The work of some of these local societies is much restricted, and may cease entirely by the diversion of the contributions of those interested in the Bible cause, through the local church and denominational channels instead of through the old auxiliary channel.

INDIANA

No word has come from the Fayette County Bible Society.

IOWA

The Gomer Welsh Bible Society contributed \$28.35, and the Sharon and Linn Grove Auxiliary contributed \$34.61, to the work of the American Bible Society.

KANSAS

The Emporia and Vicinity Welsh Bible Society has extended its generous cooperation by increasing its donation for 1926 to \$345, and shows a statement, in excellent form, of its officers, its finances, and its list of donors. The United Bible Society of East Allen County has carried out some local distribution and sent forward \$30 to the parent Society for its world work.

KENTUCKY

The Covington and Vicinity Bible Society contributed \$35.26 in 1926. Information received indicates that its activities are decreasing.

MAINE

From the compact and attractive report of the Bible Society of Maine, Mr. E. T. Garland, superintendent, we learn that five student colporteurs canvassed during the summer vacation period, visiting over 9,000 families and finding 162 without Scriptures. The distribution amounted to 8,712 Bibles and portions, of which 1,078 were donated. The income from contributions for the year was less than it had been for several years — \$4,454.29. Two bequests totaling \$1,050 were received, and \$2,203.46 came from invested funds.

MARYLAND

Receipts from the Maryland Bible Society surpassed those of the previous year, reaching a total of over \$40,000. This energetic and effective Society for its ninety-four years of history reports a total of

1,902,650 Bibles distributed. The distribution by sales for the year total 35,623 volumes. Of these over 29,000 were portions. In addition, donations were made of 168 Bibles, 590 Testaments, and 4,261 portions, making a total circulation for 1926 of 40,642 volumes. Representatives of the Society visited 14,823 families. These homes were largely visited by colporteurs who are mostly college students preparing to be ministers. This Society has not only energetically furthered the distribution in Maryland, but has contributed this year \$7,500 for the building of the Bible House at Peking, China, toward which this Society had already given nearly \$10,000.

MASSACHUSETTS

The excellent annual report of the Massachusetts Bible Society shows a circulation for 1926 of 14,837 English Bibles, 1,469 foreign Bibles, 164,279 English portions, 15,095 foreign portions, and 9 volumes for the blind — a total distribution of 195,689, slightly less than the previous year. The distribution of these Scriptures was supplied in 47 different languages; 17,704 calls were made, and 22,407 Bibles and portions were donated through many organizations as well as through the colporteurs. The advantageous location of the Society's store windows is shown by the comment of Dr. George H. Spencer, the secretary, that "there are very few moments of the day that some one is not reading something of the Bible through our windows, and possibly eight or ten persons are so engaged." The contribution to the world-wide work of the American Bible Society amounted to \$4,000.

The annual report of the New Bedford Bible Society shows books sold to the value of \$403, and donated to the value of \$25.

MINNESOTA

The Blue Earth County Society, the Judson and Vicinity Society, and the Ottawa Welsh Society re-

port contributions to the world work of the parent Society of \$71, \$185, and \$63.50 respectively. There was also received \$100 from the First Welsh Bible Society, centering at Mankato, Minn.

MISSOURI

The St. Louis Bible Society in its eightieth annual report shows books sold to the value of \$704.25, and donated to the value of \$1,895.67. The Gasconade County Society contributed \$100 to the work of the American Bible Society. The Mt. Zion Bible Society also made a similar contribution of \$50.

NEBRASKA

The Wayne County Welsh Bible Society contributed \$75.25 to the work of the parent Society, an increase over last year.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

The New Hampshire Bible Society reports the largest circulation in its history, totaling 16,151 copies. Of these, 3,859 were grants. Expenditures approximated \$14,000.

NEW JERSEY

Contributions to the American Bible Society from the auxiliary societies in New Jersey continue to be generous. The Belvidere Society sent in \$205; the Morris County Bible Society, \$500; the Somerset County Bible Society, \$400; and the Sussex County Bible Society, \$1,200. The Hunterdon County, Somerset County, and Sussex County auxiliaries show evidence of carrying on local work also. A report was received from the Monmouth County Bible Society.

NEW YORK

The list of auxiliary societies in New York State continues the longest for any state. Twelve have made contributions to the American Bible Society. Thirteen of these societies are more than one hundred years old. The Brooklyn Bible Society contributed

\$200 to the American Bible Society. The Buffalo City and Erie County Bible Society continues its excellent activity under the direction of Dr. T. H. Orme. Sales amounted to \$5,360.91, and Bibles were donated to the value of \$170.66. The circulation reported was more than 45,000 Bibles and portions in 49 different languages. A contribution of \$50 was made to the parent Society. Many local agencies cooperate most helpfully in the work of distribution. The Dutchess County Female Bible Society contributed \$300 to the parent Society, and in its annual report shows a fine list of contributors. It has cooperated with the Eastern Agency of the American Bible Society in maintaining the Scripture booth at the Rhinebeck Fair, at which increased sales were reported. The Freedom Welsh Bible Society contributed \$58.80 to the general work. A similar contribution of \$55.64 was made by the Ghent Bible Society. The Granville Welsh Bible Society reports local sales. The Greene County Society contributed \$275. The Jefferson County Bible Society has carried on some local work. The Long Island Bible Society continued its contribution of \$150 for the support of a colporteur in the Southwestern Agency. The New York Female Bible Society shows receipts from donations during the year of over \$3,000, and from interest on investments of over \$11,000. The work of this society includes many varieties of helpful service to those in need, and reports a distribution of 1,700 Bibles and portions. The Orange County Bible Society continues the largest contributor among the New York State auxiliaries to the parent Society, with an increased gift of \$800. This society has a most effective plan of collection and assists in some local work.

The Rome Welsh Bible Society sent \$100 for the world work. The Schenectady County Bible Society reports increased activity in 1926, donating Scriptures to the value of \$115.15. The Schoharie County Bible Society has done some local work and

contributed \$70.22 to the parent Society. The Ulster County Bible Society has endeavored to stimulate a large amount of local activity. The Utica and Vicinity Welsh Bible Society has sent forward \$200 for the world-wide work.

The Westchester County Bible Society in its well-printed report shows 1,129 Bibles and portions distributed to hospitals and homes and needy persons in the county. The Rev. Arthur Requa, the secretary, reports the activity of business men on the board of managers sending out letters about the work of the society at their own expense.

NORTH CAROLINA

The Tirzah Bible Society contributed \$200 during the year to the American Bible Society.

OHIO

The Cedarville Bible Society contributed \$200 and has carried on some local work. The Cincinnati Young Men's Bible Society of Hamilton County, Ohio, continues to cooperate with the Central Agency of the American Bible Society. The youngest member of this "Young Men's" society is over eighty years of age! The Columbus Welsh Society sent \$500 for the world work. The Piqua Female Bible Society sent \$100 to the American Bible Society and named its president, Mrs. L. D. Butterfield, a Life Director of the American Bible Society. It also continued its active local work. The Troy Female Bible Society contributed \$98.47 to meeting the world needs, and they are furnishing the county house and a new hospital with Bibles for each room.

PENNSYLVANIA

The Pennsylvania Bible Society with its several auxiliaries continues to cooperate with the Atlantic Agency. Its contribution to the American Bible Society for the world work in 1926 was \$7,748.36. Among the contributing auxiliaries are the Dauphin

Boro, the Gettysburg Women's, the Lancaster, the New Alexandria, the Newville and the Schuylkill County Bible Societies, the Ladies' Bible Society and Morrellville Auxiliary of Johnstown, the Women's Bible Society of Philadelphia, and the Young Men's Bible Society of Allegheny County.

SOUTH CAROLINA

All of the South Carolina auxiliaries have made contributions to the world work of the American Bible Society: The Abbeville County Bible Society, \$167.10; the Charleston Bible Society, \$500; and the Rocky Creek Bible Society, the Union Bible Society of Fairfield and Richland Counties, the Waxhaw and Shiloh Society and the York County Society contributed \$50 each. Considerable local work has been done by the Charleston Society in the sale and donation of 677 Bibles and Testaments.

TENNESSEE

The Duck River Bible Society contributed \$50. The Nashville Bible Society contributed \$200 for the world work, and purchased \$87.35 of Scriptures for local needs. The Rocky Creek Bible Society sent \$21.02 and carried on some local work.

TEXAS

The Austin Auxiliary Bible Society reports 550 families visited by the Bible-woman in its employ, and shows receipts of \$1,300 for its work. Books were sold and donated to the value of \$552.69. Its contribution to the general work of the Society was \$70.75.

VERMONT

The Vermont State Bible Society has continued its canvasses of towns and counties, two colporteurs completing the surveys of Lamoille County and several towns visited, during which 1,913 calls were made. Scriptures to the value of \$1,152.10 were distributed as grants and others given away by colpor-

teurs. The West Pawlet Welsh Bible Society contributed \$90.68 to the parent Society.

VIRGINIA

The Bible Society of Virginia continued its active cooperation with the South Atlantic Agency and its own distribution.

WEST VIRGINIA

The Jefferson County Bible Society has contributed \$50 to the world-wide work.

WISCONSIN

The Columbus Welsh Bible Society reports a contribution of \$204.50. Contributions for the world-wide work were received from the First Welsh Society of Oshkosh of \$55; from the Ixonia Welsh Society, \$45; from the Mifflin Welsh Society, \$25; from the Oshkosh City Welsh Society, \$146.32; from the Racine Welsh Society, \$190; and from the Spring Water Welsh Society, \$109.10.

The loyalty and convictions of the Welsh people with reference to the Bible are well demonstrated by the loyal support which they give to the Bible Societies.

VERSIONS



E present below and in the pages which immediately follow a list of the versions of the Holy Scriptures in which translation, revision, printing or distribution have been promoted by the Society, and a list of the names of missionary translators or revisers aided or supported by the Society.

There may be mistakes in these lists, and we would be glad to have such errors brought to our attention. We still hope, in succeeding issues, to amplify this material so it may be of service to all who are interested either from a missionary or a linguistic point of view.

LIST OF LANGUAGES

**in which the translation, printing, or distribution of the Scriptures
have been promoted by the Society, to December 31, 1926**

Accra, Africa	Cakchiquel, American Indian
Ainu, Japan	Cambodian
Albanian	Catalan
Amharic, Abyssinia	Cebuan (Visayan), Philippines
Annamese	Chamorro, Guam
Arabic	Cherokee, American Indian
Arabic-Egyptian, Africa	Chimanyika, Africa
Arapahoe, American Indian	Chinese—
Armenian (Ancient)	Mandarin, Peking
Armenian (Modern)	Mandarin, Phonetic Script
Armenian (Ararat)	Mandarin, Schereschewski
Arrawack, Guiana	Mandarin, Union Version
Aymara, So. America	Mandarin (Roman)
Azerbaijan Turkish	High Wenli
Basque	High Wenli, Bridgman, Culbertson and Boone
Bemba, Africa	Easy Wenli, Union Version
Benga, West Africa	Easy Wenli, Blodgett and Burdon Version
Bengali, India	Easy Wenli, Schereschewski Version
Bengali (Roman)	Canton Dialect
Bicol, Philippines	Canton Dialect (Roman)
Bohemian	Chungchia (Roman)
Bohemian-Slovak	Fuchau Dialect
Breton	Fuchau Dialect (Roman)
Bulgarian	
Bulu, West Africa	
Burmese	

Hainan Dialect	German
Hainan Dialect (Roman)	Gilbert Islands, Micronesia
Hakka Colloquial	Grebo, Liberia
Hinghua Dialect (Roman)	Greek (Ancient)
Hwa Miao	Greek (Modern)
Kalmuck	Guarani, Paraguay
Kopu Colloquial	Gujarati, India
Laka	Gurmukhi, India
Lisu	Hausa, Africa
Miao: Chuan	Hawaiian
Ningpo Dialect	Hebrew
Sam Kiong Colloquial	Hindi, India
Shanghai Dialect	Hungarian
Shanghai Dialect (Roman)	Ibanag, Philippines
Shantung Colloquial (Roman)	Ibo, Africa
Suchow Colloquial	Icelandic
Suchow Colloquial (Phonetic)	Ifugao, Philippines
Suchow Colloquial (Roman)	Igorot, Philippines
Swatow Dialect	Ilocano, Philippines
Swatow Dialect (Roman)	Indo-Portuguese
Tin Chin Dialect (Roman)	Irish
Chinook Jargon, America	Italian
Choctaw, American Indian	Japanese
Cree, American Indian	Japanese Kunten (Chinese Characters)
Creolese, Curaçao	Japanese (Roman)
Croatian	Javanese
Dakota, American Indian	Jolo, Philippines
Danish	Jolof, Africa
Delaware, American Indian	Judaeo-Arabic
Dikele, West Africa	Judaeo-Persian
Dutch	Judaeo-Spanish
English, American Revised Version	Kabyli, Africa
English, Authorized Version	Kamu, Siam
Eskimo	Kanarese, India
Esperanto	Karen (Sgau), Burma
Estonian, Reval, Russia	Kashmiri, India
Ethiopic	Khasi, India
Fijian	Kongo, Africa
Finnish (Gothic)	Korean (Eunmun)
Finnish (Roman)	Korean (Mixed Script)
Flemish, Belgium	K'Pelle, Africa
French	Kurdish (Arabic Characters)
Frisian	Kurdish (Armenian Characters)
Fula, West Africa	Kurdish (Mukri)
Gaelic	Kurmanji-Kurdish
Galla, Borders of Abyssinia	Kusaien, Micronesia

Lanao Moro, Philippines	Pampangan, Philippines
Lao Tai, Siam	Panayan (Visayan), Philippines
Lao Yuan, Siam	Pangasinan, Philippines
Laotian East, Siam	Panjabi, India
Laotian West (Tai Yuan), Siam	Pashto, Afghanistan
Latin	Persian
Lettish	Polish
Lithuanian	Ponape, Ascension Island
Luragoli, Kavirondo-West Africa	Portuguese
Malagasy, Madagascar	Portuguese, Revised
Malay, High	Quechua, Bolivia
Malay, Low	Quechua, Ecuador
Malay (Arabic Characters)	Quechua, Peru
Malay (Armenian Characters)	Quiche, Guatemala
Malay (Roman Characters)	Rifian, Morocco (Northern Shilha)
Malay, Baba	Romansch, Lower Engadine
Malay-Kurmanji	Romansch, Oberland
Maltese	Roumanian
Mandingo, Africa	Ruk, Caroline Islands
Maori, New Zealand	Russian
Marathi, India	Ruthenian
Marshall Islands, Micronesia	Samareño (Visayan), Philippines
Masai, Africa	Samoa
Maya, American Indian	Sanskrit, India
Mende, Africa	Santali-Bengali, India
Miskito, Nicaragua	Scottish "Broad"
Mohawk, American Indian	Sechuana, Africa
Mongolian, Lake Baikal	Seneca, American Indian
Mortlock Islands, Micronesia	Serbian
Mpongwe, West Africa	Sesuto, South Africa
Mundari, India	Shan, Burma
Muskogee, American Indian	Sheetswa, East Africa
Musso, Siam	Shilha, (Southern) Africa
Nama, Africa	Shulla or Shilluk, Africa
Nauru, Micronesia	Siamese, or Tai
Navaho, American Indian	Siamo-Lao
Nepali, India	Sindhi, India
Nez Percés, American Indian	Singhalese, Ceylon
Nguna-Efate, New Hebrides	Slavonic
Norwegian	Slovak
Norwegian (Roman)	Slovenian
Nubian, Africa	Spanish (Scio)
Ojibwa, American Indian	Spanish (Valera)
Olunyore, Africa	Swahili, Africa
Oriya, India	Swedish
Pahari, India	Syriac (Ancient)
Pali, India	Syriac (Modern)

Tagalog, Philippines	Turkish (Greek Characters)
Tahiti, Polynesia	Turkish-Transcaucasian
Tai Lu, Siam	Urdu or Hindustani
Tai Shan, Siam	Valiente, Central America
Tai Ya, Siam	Visayan or Bisayan (See Cebuan,
Talaing or Peguan, Burma	Panayan, and Samareno)
Tamil, India	Welsh
Telugu, India	Wolof, West Africa
Temne, Sierra Leone	Yiddish
Tibetan	Yoruba, Nigeria
Tonga, East Africa	Zambal, Philippines
Turkish (Arabic Characters)	Zapotec, Mexico
Turkish (Armenian Characters)	Zulu, Africa

Embossed Scriptures for the Blind in Sixteen Languages and Systems

Arabic, Braille System	English, Revised Braille, Grade 1½
Arabic, Moon System	English, Braille System
Armenian, Braille System	English, Moon System
Armeno-Turkish, Braille System	Japanese, Braille System
Chinese, Mandarin, Braille	Korean, New York Point
English, Boston Line Letter	Portuguese, Braille System
English, New York Point	Siamese, Braille System
English, New York Point Bipage	Spanish, Braille System
English, American Braille System	Swedish, Braille System

MISSIONARY TRANSLATORS OR REVISERS AIDED OR SUPPORTED BY THE SOCIETY

American Indians (North and South)

Ainslee, Rev. George	Nez Percés
Allan, Rev. George	Quechua, Bolivia
Alphonse, E. S.	Valiente
Bradley, Rev. Amos.....	Quiché
Brink, Rev. L. P.	Navaho
Buckner, Dr. H. F.	Muskogee
Burgess, Rev. Paul.....	Quiche
Hall, Rev. Sherman	Ojibwa
Heath, Rev. Geo. R.....	Miskito
James, Dr. Edwin.....	Ojibwa
McDonald, Archdeacon Robert ...	"
Ramsay, Rev. J. R.	Muskogee
Riggs, Rev. S. R.	Dakota
Roberts, Rev. J.	Arapahoe
Robertson, Mrs. A. E. W.	Muskogee
Spalding, Rev. H. H.	Nez Percés
Stucki, Rev. J.	Winnebago
Torrey, Rev. C. C.	Cherokee
Turner, Mrs. C. M.	Quechua, Peru
Williamson, Rev. T. S.	Dakota
Worcester, Rev. S. A.	Cherokee
Wright, Rev. A.	Choctaw, Seneca

Africa:

Bushnell, Rev. Albert	Mpongwe, Dikele
Dorward, Rev. Mr.	Zulu
Frazer, Rev. M. E.	Bulu
Good, Rev. A. C.	"
Guthrie, Rev. Cuthbert B.....	Shulla
Kilbon, Rev. C. W.	Zulu
Kramer, Mrs. H. C.....	Olunyore
Leonard, Rev. G. C.	K'Pelle
McCleary, Rev. C. W.	Bulu
Nauer, Rev. F. G.	Benga
Ousley, Rev. Benjamin	Sheetswa
Payne, Rt. Rev. John	Grebo
Preston, Rev. I. M.	Dikele
Rees, Rev. E. J.	Luragoli
Richards, Rev. E. H.	Sheetswa, Tonga
Rood, Rev. I.	Zulu
Taylor, Rev. J. D.	"
Vinson, Rev. T. C.....	Luba-Lulua

Wilcox, Rev. W. C.	Zulu
Wilder, Rev. G. E.	"
Wilson, Rev. D. A.	Mpongwe

China:

Aiken, Rev. E. E.	Mandarin, Union
Allan, Rev. C. N.	" "
Baldwin, Rev. C. C.	Fuchau Colloquial
Baldwin, Rev. S. L.	" "
Baller, Rev. F. W.	Mandarin, Union
Blodgett, Rev. H.	" Easy Wenli
Box, Rev. E.	Shanghai Colloquial
Bramfitt, Rev. Thomas	Mandarin, Union
Brewster, Dr.	Hinghua, Colloquial
Bridgman, Dr. E. C.	Wenli, Classical
Burdon, Rt. Rev. J. S.	Mandarin, Easy Wenli
Chalmers, Rev. John	Wenli (Classical, Union) *
Chestnut, Mrs. Eleanor, M. D.	Sam Kiong Colloquial
Clayton, Rev. G. A.	Mandarin (in Braille)
Culbertson, Rev. M. S.	Wenli (Classical)
Davis, Rev. D. H.	Shanghai Colloquial
Davis, Rev. John W.	Easy Wenli, Union
Edkins, Rev. Dr. Jos.	Wenli (Classical, Union)
Farnham, Rev. Dr.	Shanghai Colloq., Union
Fitch, Rev. G. F.	Suchow dialect
Genahr, Rev. I.	Easy Wenli, Union
Gibson, Rev. J. G.	Swatow, Easy Wenli, Union
Goodrich, Rev. C.	Mandarin, Union
Graves, Rev. R. H.	Canton Dialect,
	Easy Wenli, Union
Happer, Rev. Dr.	Canton Colloquial
Henry, Rev. Dr.	" "
Hykes, Rev. J. R.	Mandarin
Judd, Rev. C. H.	Shantung Colloquial
Lewis, Rev. Spencer	Mandarin, Union
Lloyd, Rev. Mr.	Wenli (Classical) Union
Lowrie, Mrs. R.	Peking Colloquial
Maclagan, Rev. P. J.	Wenli (Classical)
Martin, Rev. W. A. P.	Mandarin
Mateer, Rev. C. W.	Mandarin, Union
Nagel, Rev. A.	Wenli (Classical) Union
Nevius, Rev. J. L.	Mandarin, Union
Noyes, Rev. Dr.	Canton Colloquial
Owen, Rev. George	Mandarin, Union
Parker, Rev. A. P.	Easy Wenli
Pearce, Rev. T. W.	Wenli (Classical) Union
Schaub, Rev. M.	Wenli (Classical)
Schereschewski, Rt. Rev. S. I. J. ...	Mandarin, Easy Wenli

Sheffield, Rev. D. Z.	Wenli (Classical) Union
Silsby, Rev. J. A.	Shanghai Colloquial
Thompson, Archdeacon	" "
Ware, Rev. James	" "
Wherry, Rev. J.	Wenli (Classical) Union
Woodin, Rev. Dr.	Fuchau Colloquial

Hawaii:

Andrews, Rev. L.	Hawaiian
Bingham, Rev. Hiram.	"
Bishop, Rev. A.	"
Clark, Rev. E. W.	"
Dibble, Rev. S.	"
Green, Rev. J. S.	"
Richards, Rev. W.	"
Thurston, Rev. A.	"

India:

Ballantine, Rev. H.	Marathi
Bate, Rev. J.	Hindi
Bateman, Rev. R.	Urdu
Chamberlain, Rev. Jacob.	Telugu
Hall, Rev. Gordon.	Marathi
Hay, Rev. J.	Telugu
Janvier, Rev. L.	Panjabi
Newell, Rev. Samuel.	Marathi
Newton, Rev. E. P.	Panjabi
Newton, Rev. John.	"
Sutton, Rev. A.	Uriya (Orissa)
Tracy, Rev. W.	Tamil
Winslow, Rev. M.	"

Japan:

Amerman, Rev. J. L.	Japanese Colloquial
Batchelor, Rev. J.	Ainu
Brown, Rev. S. R.	Japanese
Davison, R. C. S.	"
Foss, Rt. Rev. H. F.	"
Fyson, Rt. Rev. P. K.	"
Greene, Rev. D. C.	"
Gutzlaff, Rev. Charles.	"
Harrington, Rev. C. K.	"
Hepburn, Dr. J. C.	"
Learned, Rev. D. W.	"
Maclay, Rev. R. S.	"
Piper, Rev. John.	"
Verbeck, Rev. G. F.	"
Williams, Rt. Rev. D. C.	Chino-Japanese

Korea:

Appenzeller, Rev. H. G.....	Korean
Gale, Rev. J. S.....	"
Jones, Rev. G. H.....	"
Moffet, Rev. S. A.....	"
Reynolds, Rev. W. B.....	"
Scranton, Dr. W. B.....	Korean
Trollope, Rev. M. N.....	"
Underwood, Rev. H. G.....	"

Micronesia:

Bingham, Rev. Hiram, Jr.....	Gilbert Islands
Delaporte, Rev. P. A.....	Nauru
Doane, Rev. E. T.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)
	Ponape
	"
Gulick, Rev. L. H.....	
Logan, Rev. R. W.....	Mortlock, Ruk
Pease, Rev. E. M.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)
Pierson, Rev. G.....	" "
Price, Rev. F. M.....	Ruk, Chamorro
Rife, Rev. C. W., M.D.....	Marshall Islands
Snow, Rev. B. G.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)
	Kusaen
Sturges, Rev. A. A.....	Ponape
Whitney, Rev. J. F.....	Ebon (Marshall Islands)

Philippines:

Conant, Mr. Carlos E.....	Pampangan
Goodrich, Rev. J. C.....	Ilocano
Hanna, Rev. W. H.....	"
Lund, Rev. Eric.....	Visayan of Panay
Mumma, Rev. M. W.....	Ilocano
Peterson, Rev. B. O.....	"
Williams, Rev. P. H.....	"

Siam:

Bradley, Rev. D. B.....	Siamese
Campbell, Rev. Howard.....	Tai Yuan or Lao
Carrington, Rev. John.....	Siamese
Crooks, Mrs. C. H.....	Kamu
Dunlap, Rev. E. P.....	Siamese
Irwin, Rev. Robert.....	Laos
McClure, Rev. W. G.....	Siamese
McFarland, Rev. S. G.....	"
McGilvary, Mrs. Daniel.....	Laos
McGilvary, Rev. E. B.....	"
McKean, Dr. J. W.....	"
Mattoon, Rev. S.....	Siamese

Van Dyke, Rev. J. W.	Siamese
Wilson, Rev. J.	Laos

Turkey:

Adger, Rev. J. B.	Armenian
Andrus, Rev. A. N.	Kurdish
Christie, Rev. Dr. J.	Hebrew-Spanish
Dwight, Rev. H. O.	Turkish
Fossum, Rev. L. O.	Kurdish (Mukri)
Goodell, Rev. W.	Armeno-Turkish
Herrick, Rev. G. F.	Turkish
Hoskins, Rev. F. E.	Arabic
Labarree, Rev. Benjamin	Azerbaijan Turkish
Long, Rev. A. L.	Bulgarian
Perkins, Rev. Justin	Syriac (Modern)
Pratt, Rev. A. T.	Turkish
Riggs, Rev. Elias	Armenian, Bulgarian, Turkish
Riggs, Rev. H. H.	Kurmanji-Kurdish
Schauffler, Rev. W. G.	Hebrew-Spanish, Turkish
Smith, Rev. Eli	Arabic
Spence, Rev. D. B.	Hebrew-Spanish
Van Dyck, Rev. C. V. A.	Arabic
Weakley, Rev. R. H.	Turkish
Wright, Rev. J. N.	Azerbaijan Turkish

Miscellaneous:

Baez, Rev. D. B.	Spanish
Brown, Rev. W. C.	Portuguese
Diez, Rev. Francisco	Spanish
Drees, Rev. Charles W.	"
Einspruch, Rev. Henry	Yiddish
Howland, Rev. John	Spanish
Kyle, Rev. J. M.	Portuguese
Pratt, Rev. H. B.	Spanish
Smith, Rev. J. R.	"
Stallybrass, Rev. E.	Mongolian
Thomson, Rev. Henry C.	Spanish

THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY



THE accessions for the year ending December 31, 1926, show certain of our own publications printed in the United States, others from our presses in foreign lands, and also Scriptures received from other Societies, and various volumes added to the Library for the current use of the Society.

ACCESSIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

I. Publications from the Society's Press at the Bible House

Holy Bible	American Bible Society, New York, 1822
New Testament in Miskito.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1926
New Testament and Psalms in Italian,	
.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1919
John in French.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
John in Swedish.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
John in Portuguese.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
New Testament	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
New Testament in Bulu.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
New Testament and Psalms.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
New Testament and Psalms.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
New Testament and Psalms.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
New Testament and Psalms.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
New Testament and Psalms.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
John in Polish.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
John in Italian.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
John in German.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Proverbs in Portuguese.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Matthew in Portuguese.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Mark in Portuguese.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Luke in Portuguese.....	American Bible Society, New York, n. d.
Book of Psalms.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
New Testament in Cebuan-Visayan,	
.....	American Bible Society, New York, 1925
Holy Bible	American Bible Society, New York, 1871

II. Publications from the Society's Press in Foreign Lands

Leviticus in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiangmai, 1925
Daniel in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiangmai, 1925
Matthew in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1925
Psalms in Siamese, Seventh edition,	
.....	American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1925
Luke in Siamese, Fourteenth edition,	
.....	American Bible Society, Bangkok, 1925
Cebuan Testament	American Bible Society, Manila, 1924
Luke in Tagalog.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1925
Matthew in Cebuan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926

Mark in Cebuan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
Luke in Cebuan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
John in Cebuan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
Acts in Cebuan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
New Testament in Cebuan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1925
Santa Biblia	For American Bible Society by British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
Hosea in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiengmai, Siam, n. d.
Nahum in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiengmai, Siam, 1926
Zephaniah in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiengmai, Siam, 1926
Joel in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiengmai, Siam, 1926
Habakkuk in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiengmai, Siam, 1926
Obadiah in Laos.....	American Bible Society, Chiengmai, Siam, 1926
Bible in Tagalog.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1924
Bible in Panayan-Visayan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1925
Bible in Pampangan.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1924
New Testament in Mandarin (Gen. Chang Chih-kiang edition),	American Bible Society, Shanghai, 1926
New Testament in Mandarin (Gen. Chang Chih-kiang edition),	American Bible Society, Shanghai, 1926
New Testament in Mandarin (Gen. Chang Chih-kiang edition),	American Bible Society, Shanghai, 1926
Holy Bible in Mandarin (Gen. Chang Chih-kiang edition),	American Bible Society, Shanghai, 1926
Bible in Mandarin (Gen. Chang Chih-kiang edition),	American Bible Society, Shanghai, 1926
Bible in Mandarin (Gen. Chang Chih-kiang edition),	American Bible Society, Shanghai, 1926
Holy Bible in Tagalog.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
Acts in Tagalog.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
Psalms in Tagalog.....	American Bible Society, Manila, 1926
Acts in Japanese, rev. version.....	American Bible Society, Tokyo, 1925

III. Other Scriptures

Selections in Miskito.....	Moravian Mission, Nicaragua, 1925
Acts in Basa of Cameroon,	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
Four Gospels in Egyptian, Part I, Matthew and Mark,	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1924
Psalms and Proverbs in Swahili (Zanzibar),	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
Gospel of St. John according to the earliest Coptic MS.,	Quaritch, London, 1924
La Sacra Bibbia, rev. version,	British and Foreign Bible Society, Rome, 1925
Holy Bible. Vols. 1-14.....	Hinkley, Boston, n. d.
Mark in Chuana.....	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
Luke in Ragetta.....	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
Genesis, etc., in Mongo.....	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1924
New Testament in Sukuma,	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
John in Hausa (Aljemi character),	British and Foreign Bible Society, London, 1925
Die Bibel	Evangelische Gesellschaft, Zurich, 1911
Holy Bible—Genesis-Ruth.....	Nonesuch Press, London, 1925
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- Wilcox. Man from an African Jungle.....Macmillan, New York, 1925
- Sibree. Fifty Years in Madagascar.....Houghton, Boston, 1924
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- Anthony. Safeguarding Funds Stohlmann, New York, c1925
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- Jordan. Central American Indians and the Bible.....Revell, New York, c1926
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- Powell. Asia at the Crossroads.....Century, New York, 1922
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- Macintosh. Reasonableness of Christianity.....Scribner, New York, 1925
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ISSUES

Bibles, Testaments and Portions Issued in Each Year since Its Organization

Year	Bibles	Test's, etc.	Total	Year	Bibles	Test's, etc.	Total
1st	6,410	-----	6,410	57th	313,714	887,531	1,201,245
2d	17,594	-----	17,594	58th	317,365	673,207	990,572
3d	23,870	7,248	31,118	59th	281,703	645,197	926,900
4th	26,800	14,713	41,513	60th	269,303	581,167	850,470
5th	26,772	16,474	43,246	61st	239,546	641,510	881,056
6th	28,910	24,560	53,470	62d	297,452	560,041	857,493
7th	28,448	26,357	54,805	63d	343,902	843,952	1,187,854
8th	31,590	28,849	60,439	64th	394,545	961,494	1,356,039
9th	30,094	33,757	63,851	65th	422,208	1,052,395	1,474,603
10th	31,154	35,980	67,134	66th	371,728	1,153,045	1,524,773
11th	35,876	35,745	71,621	67th	438,063	1,238,169	1,676,232
12th	75,734	58,873	134,607	68th	499,379	1,308,836	1,808,215
13th	91,248	108,874	200,122	69th	429,716	1,118,459	1,548,175
14th	130,254	108,329	238,583	70th	369,714	1,067,726	1,437,440
15th	171,972	70,211	242,183	71st	391,865	1,055,405	1,447,270
16th	54,843	60,959	115,802	72d	420,242	1,084,405	1,504,647
17th	36,941	54,227	91,168	73d	410,282	1,030,173	1,440,455
18th	34,083	76,749	110,832	74th	412,862	1,083,195	1,496,057
19th	47,709	75,527	123,236	75th	450,180	1,047,457	1,497,637
20th	65,974	155,720	221,694	76th	411,618	886,578	1,298,196
21st	51,354	154,886	206,240	77th	410,093	984,770	1,394,863
22d	45,083	113,215	158,298	78th	400,176	1,047,483	1,447,659
23d	45,333	89,604	134,937	79th	403,434	1,177,694	1,581,128
24th	54,227	103,034	157,261	80th	391,437	1,358,846	1,750,283
25th	64,304	87,893	152,202	81st	317,472	1,196,027	1,513,499
26th	101,416	155,650	257,066	82d	252,530	1,109,743	1,362,273
27th	82,912	133,693	216,605	83d	194,564	1,186,328	1,380,892
28th	114,766	199,816	314,582	84th	215,426	1,191,375	1,406,801
29th	145,970	283,122	429,092	85th	238,081	1,316,047	1,554,128
30th	161,974	321,899	483,873	86th	283,288	1,440,503	1,723,791
31st	209,416	418,348	627,764	87th	302,121	1,691,437	1,993,558
32d	232,272	422,794	655,066	88th	304,952	1,465,939	1,770,891
33d	205,307	359,419	564,726	89th	290,847	1,540,249	1,831,096
34th	205,037	428,358	633,395	90th	274,185	1,962,574	2,236,759
35th	209,821	382,611	592,432	91st	272,077	1,963,776	1,910,853
36th	221,450	444,565	666,015	92d	262,518	1,633,423	1,895,941
37th	260,381	538,999	799,380	93d	312,922	1,840,106	2,153,028
38th	277,584	537,815	815,399	94th	327,636	2,499,195	2,826,831
39th	256,087	493,809	749,896	95th	393,230	2,838,492	3,231,722
40th	240,776	427,489	668,265	96th	430,098	3,261,103	3,691,201
41st	258,846	511,211	770,057	97th	399,734	3,649,876	4,049,610
42d	260,997	451,048	712,045	98th	412,229	4,838,947	5,251,176
43d	269,826	451,269	721,095	99th	352,469	6,053,854	6,406,323
44th	267,466	486,306	753,772	100th	383,824	7,377,553	7,761,377
45th	295,858	426,020	721,878	101st	274,118	5,330,650	5,604,768
46th	161,374	932,468	1,093,842	102d	244,515	4,574,049	4,818,564
47th	175,554	1,083,563	1,259,117	103d	235,780	5,804,927	6,040,707
48th	238,063	1,262,501	1,500,564	104th	354,387	3,397,922	3,752,309
49th	239,097	1,591,659	1,830,756	105th	331,757	3,493,644	3,825,401
50th	256,498	894,030	1,150,528	106th	375,495	4,485,686	4,861,181
51st	324,215	933,745	1,257,960	107th	442,869	4,120,198	4,563,067
52d	315,525	871,669	1,187,194	108th	423,611	6,677,967	7,101,289
53d	339,595	1,047,016	1,386,611	109th	392,798	6,259,501	6,652,299
54th	329,774	1,000,866	1,330,640	110th	375,202	8,839,221	9,214,423
55th	316,857	790,870	1,107,727	111th	359,989	9,547,372	9,907,361
56th	298,352	802,519	1,100,871				
				Total	27,650,894	156,378,066	184,028,960

FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETIES AND THEIR CIRCULATION FOR 1926



ANOTHER year we must report incomplete success in our effort to record the circulation of Foreign Bible Societies. The notes below will show which of the statistics presented are up to date. They give some impression of the number of volumes of Scriptures being annually issued by Bible Societies in America and Europe:

Great Britain

	1926
British and Foreign Bible Society (1804).....	10,452,733
National Bible Society of Scotland (1861).....	3,721,945
Scripture Gift Mission	2,687,377

France

Bible Society of France (1864).....	*32,369
Protestant Bible Society of Paris (1818).....	*10,287

Holland

Netherlands Bible Society (1815).....	*118,434
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Denmark

Danish Bible Society	*61,897
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Norway

Norwegian Bible Society (1815).....	*63,272
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Sweden

Swedish Bible Society (1809).....	*25,510
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Germany

Baden Bible Society, Karlsruhe	*23,180
Bavarian (or Central) Bible Society of Nuremberg (1823).....	*7,976
Bergische Bible Society, Elberfeld (1814).....	*85,852
Canstein Bible Institution of Halle (1712).....	†36,691
Prussian Bible Society (1814; as Berlin Bible Soc., 1806).....	*123,500
Saxony Bible Society (1814).....	*22,280
Wurttemberg Bible Institution (1812).....	*697,405

Switzerland

Basel Bible Society (1804)	2,509
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* 1925. † 1923.

APPROPRIATIONS AND ESTIMATES FOR 1927



THE appropriation year is the same as the financial year of the Society, and both are identical with the calendar year. The following expenditures have been authorized by the Board of Managers of the Society for the year 1927.

For the Home Agencies, \$155,570, to be divided as below;

For the Foreign Agencies, \$497,900, to be divided as below (\$284,700 is the cash appropriation from America, and \$213,200 the estimated receipts from sales of Scriptures, church collections, and individual gifts in those lands, which are not forwarded to the Bible House in New York as they are in the case of the ten Home Agencies, but are retained on the field as an addition to the appropriations);

For the miscellaneous grants of Scriptures and emergency items in the home field, \$36,000;

To meet emergencies connected with Foreign Agencies and the miscellaneous grants in funds and books to fields in Europe, Africa, and Asia, where the Society has no regular Agencies, \$25,000;

For contingencies under general distribution, \$1,000;

For the translation and revision of the Scriptures, largely for foreign lands, \$5,000;

For plates of new versions, \$10,000;

For the manufacture of Scriptures at the Bible House in New York, \$400,000 — (These books are used chiefly in the Home Agencies of the Society and really are a supplement to their appropriation. Books are also sent from the Bible House to Latin-American countries, where they are included in the appropriations to the Agencies);

For the administrative and office expenses, which include the salaries of the officers, the clerical force

at the Bible House, and all the cost of leaflets, the *Bible Society Record*, the ANNUAL REPORT, postage, traveling expenses, etc., \$169,730.

The above Appropriations and Estimates total \$1,300,200.

HOME APPROPRIATIONS

Agency among the Colored People of the United States

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$23,600

Eastern Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$12,270

Atlantic Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$18,600

National Capital Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$3,000

South Atlantic Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$15,600

Central Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$15,600

Northwestern Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$20,600

Southwestern Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$15,600

Western Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$15,100

Pacific Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository, office expenses, traveling expenses, colporteurs' salaries and expenses, freight, postage, printing, incidentals, and grants in books made in the field of the Agency.. \$15,600

TOTAL HOME AGENCIES

Colored People Agency.....	\$23,600
Eastern Agency.....	12,270
Atlantic Agency.....	18,600
National Capital Agency.....	3,000
South Atlantic Agency.....	15,600
Central Agency.....	15,600
Northwestern Agency.....	20,600
Southwestern Agency.....	15,600
Western Agency.....	15,100
Pacific Agency.....	15,600

\$155,570

FOREIGN APPROPRIATIONS

West Indies Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository rentals and salaries, traveling expenses, duties, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books and incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections..... \$25,100

Mexico Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository rentals and salaries, traveling expenses, transportation, duties, commissions, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books, incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$30,300

Caribbean Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and expenses, customs, freight and storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, incidentals, grants in books, and books from New York or purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections.. \$24,550

Upper Andes Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository expenses, customhouse charges, freight and storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books, incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions \$19,490

La Plata Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository expenses, customhouse charges, freight and storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, grants in books, translation, incidentals, and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions \$36,100

Brazil Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary and house rent, depository, attendance, customs, freight, storage, traveling expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, translation, incidentals, grants in books and books sent from New York and purchased, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$35,900

Levant Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and office expenses, purchase and customhouse charges, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight and storage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, superintendence, insurance, rent, postage, stationery, traveling expenses, exchange, and grants in books and in funds, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$36,940

Arabic-Levant Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and office expenses, purchase and customhouse charges, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight and storage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, superintendence, insurance, rent, postage, stationery, traveling expenses, exchange, and grants in books and in funds, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions..... \$43,430

Philippines Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and expenses, translation work, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight, duty, cartage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, traveling expenses of agent, incidentals, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and collections \$33,000

Siam Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary and house rent, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight, shipping, colporteurs' wages and expenses, traveling expenses, rent, storage, incidentals, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field and collections..... \$17,440

China Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary and house rent, translation work, purchase and manufacture of Scriptures, freight, storage, plates, superintendence of colportage, salaries and expenses, colporteurs' wages and expenses, depository and expenses, traveling expenses, incidentals, estimated receipts from sales retained on the field, and contributions. \$144,100

Japan Agency

Salary of Agency Secretary, depository and office expenses, translation, manufacture and purchase of Scriptures, freight, storage, colporteurs' wages and expenses, insurance, traveling expenses, grants in books, etc., estimated receipts from sales retained on the field and contributions	\$51,150
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TOTAL FOREIGN AGENCIES

West Indies	\$25,100
Mexico	30,300
Caribbean	24,550
Upper Andes	19,490
La Plata	36,100
Brazil	35,900
Levant	36,940
Arabic-Levant	43,430
Philippines	33,000
Siam	17,440
China	144,100
Japan	51,150
Contingent Fund	400
	\$497,900

HOME SPECIALS

Special grants not through Agencies, and Home Agency emergency expenses	\$36,000
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FOREIGN SPECIALS

Grants to missionary societies and other workers not laboring in the fields of our regular Foreign Agencies (estimated) and furlough and emergency expenses	\$25,000
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TRANSLATION AND REVISION

Estimated for translation and revision work in progress or in the plans for the year, not included in the appropriations to Foreign Agencies—Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, Yiddish, Slovak, North American Indian, Philippine, Micronesian, and African languages.....	\$5,000
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PLATES OF NEW VERSIONS

Estimated for the preparation of plates of Scriptures in Versions newly made and revised	\$10,000
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MANUFACTURE

Manufacture and purchase of Scriptures at the Bible House in New York City (covered in large measure by receipts from sales).....	\$400,000
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ADMINISTRATIVE AND MISCELLANEOUS**EXPENDITURES (Estimated)**

Administrative and office expenses, including salaries of the officers, clerical force of the Bible House, traveling expenses, cost of reports, leaflets and <i>Bible Society Record</i> , postage, telephone, sundries, and Bibles for Life Members.....	\$169,730
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SUMMARY

Home Agencies	\$155,570
Foreign Agencies	497,900
Home Specials	36,000
Foreign Specials	25,000
Contingent	1,000
Translation, etc.	5,000
Plates of New Versions	10,000
Manufacture, etc.	400,000
Estimated Administrative and Miscellaneous Expenditures.....	169,730
Aggregate	\$1,300,200

TREASURER'S REPORT



THE following pages give an exhibit of the transactions of the Society for the year ending December 31, 1926. The work of publishing and handling the Scriptures at the Bible House in New York City has been treated as a Separate Agency, under the title of "The Home Office."

First is presented a balance sheet showing the assets and liabilities of the Society. Exhibit "B" is a "Surplus Account," showing the balance that would be left if the Society had closed up business and discharged all its trusts on the 31st of December, 1926. Exhibit "C" is a condensed statement of the income account for the year showing the income and expenditures. Exhibit "D" gathers up the important items of each of the Foreign Agencies of the Society in a condensed balance sheet, which is amplified in Exhibit "E." Exhibit "F" is a consolidated balance sheet of Home Agencies, amplified in Exhibit "G." Exhibit "H" is an analysis of the manufacturing costs, based on a new system of cost finding introduced in 1922. Wherever the term "Headquarters" is used in these exhibits, it refers to the general activities of the American Bible Society as apart from the Domestic and Foreign Agencies and the manufacturing, distributing, and selling departments of the Home Office of the Society at the Bible House in New York.

Following these tables, there is presented the Income from Trust Funds, the List of Contributions, and the Remittances from Bible Societies.

EXHIBIT A—BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS		
Trust Fund Investments:		
General Trust Fund Investments—		
Investments.....	\$2,070,462.29	
Uninvested Cash.....	7,990.47	
Total General Trust Fund Investments.....		\$2,078,452.76
Alexander Campbell Trust Fund Investments—		
Investments.....	48,051.09	
Uninvested Cash.....	26.79	
Total Alexander Campbell Trust Fund Investments.....		48,077.88
Total Trust Fund Investments..		\$2,126,530.64
Annuity Fund Investments:		
Investments.....	2,393,653.00	
Uninvested cash.....	70,813.50	
Total Annuity Fund Investments		2,464,466.50
Other Investments:		
Publication Department Investments .	56,400.00	
Margaret O. Sage Legacy Fund Investments.....	131,389.00	
Legacy Equalization Fund Investments	81,053.93	
Charlesanna Lukens Huston Legacy Fund Investments.....	60,000.00	
Miscellaneous Investments.....	6,978.41	
Uninvested Cash.....	37,672.90	
Total Other Investments.....		373,494.24
Real Estate and Equipment:		
Bible House, New York City.....	526,988.30	
Bible House, Cristobal, C. Z.....	49,789.00	
Bible House, Peking, China.....	25,000.00	
Bible House, Manila, P. I.....	14,606.96	
General Equipment, New York City..	7,688.07	
Total Real Estate and Equipment		624,072.33
Current Assets:		
Cash.....	6,716.80	
Accounts Receivable.....	7,034.31	
Total Current Assets.....		13,751.11
Agency Accounts:		
Total Assets Foreign Agencies per Exhibit "D".....	348,433.04	
Total Assets Domestic Agencies per Exhibit "F".....	725,340.52	
Cash in transit, net.....	67,093.13	
Total.....	1,140,866.69	
Deduct Accounts Payable.....	110,845.24	
Total, All Agencies.....		1,030,021.45
Deferred Assets:		
Paid-up Insurance Policy.....	1,000.00	
Unexpired Insurance.....	2,556.89	
Refundable Expenditures.....	4,212.72	
Total Deferred.....		7,769.61
Total Assets.....		\$6,640,105.80

LIABILITIES

Permanent Trust Funds:

Income for general purposes.....	\$1,699,130.59
Income for specific purposes.....	327,436.71

Total Permanent Trust Fund.... \$2,026,567.30

Trust Funds Created by Board of Managers:

Income for general purposes.....	26,067.46
Income for specific purposes.....	21,900.00

Total Trust Funds Created by Board of Managers..... 47,967.46

Alexander Campbell Trust Funds..... 48,077.88

Trust Funds—Subject to Life Interest..... 3,918.00

Total Trust Funds..... \$2,126,530.64

Annuity Funds:

Annuity Donations.....	2,406,231.29
Annuity Reserve Fund.....	58,235.21

Total Annuity Funds..... 2,464,466.50

Unexpended Funds held for Specific Purposes:

Margaret O. Sage Legacy Fund.....	292,377.26
Legacy Equalization Fund.....	107,088.91
Charlesanna L. Huston Legacy Fund..	60,618.75
Japan Earthquake Fund.....	12,431.00
Funds received for transmission....	61.24

Total..... 472,577.16

Deduct—Blind Fund..... 1,918.27

Total Unexpended Funds held for Specific Purposes..... 470,658.89

Foreign Drafts Outstanding..... 42,663.30

Maryland Bible Society for Peking Bible House..... 9,925.00

Surplus, per Exhibit "B"..... 1,525,861.55

Total Liabilities..... \$6,640,105.88

EXHIBIT B—SURPLUS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926

Balance, December 31, 1925		\$1,482,249.9
Add:		
Replacement of Scriptures and Equipment lost in Japan Earthquake, out of Japan Earthquake Fund.....	\$26,650.65	
Reserve for Cristobal Bible House.....	49,727.28	
Miscellaneous prior period adjustments.....	936.22	
Total Additions		77,314.15
		\$1,559,564.05
Deduct:		
Excess of Expense over Income for Year, per Exhibit "C"	\$24,357.36	
Decrease in inventory values.....	8,963.03	
Miscellaneous prior period adjustments.....	382.11	
Total Deductions		\$ 33,702.50
Balance, December 31, 1926, per Exhibit "A"		\$1,525,861.55

EXHIBIT C—HEADQUARTERS INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926

Income from Trust Funds.....		\$104,197.33	
Income from Available Investments.....		9,898.10	
Income from Annuity Funds:			
Income from Annuity Investments..	\$128,826.94		
Annuity Bonds terminated.....	44,250.59		
Withdrawn from Annuity Reserve..	22,337.65		
	<u>\$195,415.18</u>		
Less Annuities and Expenses	170,415.18		
Net Income from Annuity Funds.....		25,000.00	
Legacies and Gifts:			
Income from Legacies.....	\$112,599.24		
Gifts from Churches.....	207,546.11		
Gifts from Auxiliary Bible Societies.....	16,932.98		
Gifts from Individuals.....	147,197.08		
Income from Legacy Equalization Fund.....	2,042.30		
Reserve from Scriptures donated.....	2,270.50		
Total.....		\$488,588.21	
Deduct:			
Legacy Expense.....	\$ 1,709.89		
Payments to Auxiliary Bible Societies.....	10,301.85		
Church Budget Costs.....	1,829.85		
Reserve for Legacy Equalization Fund.....	54,641.54	68,483.13	
Total Legacies and Gifts.....		\$420,105.08	
Income from Scriptures to the Blind:			
Income from Jonathan Burr Legacy.....	\$ 2,110.94		
Income from Alden Memorial Fund.....	50.78		
Income from Lizzie B. Bowman Memorial Fund.....	3.82		
Gifts from Churches and Individuals.....	8,727.12		
Total Income and Gifts.....		\$ 10,892.66	
Scriptures donated to Blind in 1925 in excess of income.....	\$ 1,296.22		
Scriptures donated to Blind in 1926.....	10,849.22		
Expenses, transportation, etc.....	665.49		
Total Scriptures donated and Expenses.....	\$12,810.93		
Less excess of donation and expenses over income available for same....	1,918.27		
Total Donations and Expenses charged to 1926.....		10,892.66	
Bible House Rentals:			
Gross Rentals.....	\$133,916.94		
Expenses, repairs, taxes, etc.....	72,734.32		
Refunding of improvements to Bible House.....	21,182.62	93,916.94	
Net Income from Bible House Rentals.....		40,000.00	
Discounts and Allowances of Domestic Agencies, charged to Publication Department.....		16,370.75	
Total Income Headquarters...		<u>\$615,571.26</u>	

Brought forward.....		\$615,571.26	
General Expenses:			
General salaries and expenses.....	\$ 66,096.20		
Treasurer's Office, salaries and expenses.....	14,817.10		
Appeals.....	21,698.62		
Bible Society Record.....	14,260.78		
Diffusion of Information.....	36,374.09		
Library expenses.....	1,010.97		
Broadcasting.....	724.85		
Translation and revision.....	1,848.91		
Plates of new versions.....	10,835.75		
Miscellaneous, extraordinary Domestic Agencies, expenses.....	6,517.74		
Miscellaneous, extraordinary Foreign Agencies, expenses.....	10,817.68		
Total General Expenses.....		\$185,002.69	
Donations:			
Grants to Missionary and Other Societies.....	11,461.25		
Scriptures donated.....	13,523.18		
Scriptures to Life Members.....	141.50		
Total Donations.....		25,125.93	
Total Charges and Other Deductions from Income, Headquarters....		<u>210,128.62</u>	
Excess of Income over Income Charges, Headquarters.....		405,442.64	
Excess of Expenses over Income, Foreign Agencies per Exhibit "E"....	292,202.33		
Excess of Expenses over Income, Domestic Agencies per Exhibit "G"....	137,597.67		
Total Excess of Expenses over Income, All Agencies.....		429,800.00	
Excess of Expenses over Income per Exhibit "B"....		<u>\$24,357.36</u>	

EXHIBIT D—CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF FOREIGN AGENCIES, AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1926

	Brazil	Caribbean	China	Japan	La Plata	Arabic Levant	Levant	Mexico	Philippines	Siam	Upper Andes	West Indies	Total
ASSETS:													
Cash	\$ 1,448.18	\$ 2,055.83	\$25,430.22	\$ 5,365.77	\$ 213.88	\$11,397.85	\$ 6,100.05	\$ 446.95	\$ 120.88	\$ 783.67	\$ 251.79	\$ 567.40	\$56,292.47
Inventory of Scriptures	1,448.18	13,648.92	37,292.48	16,388.49	9,357.15	18,501.62	19,045.61	11,311.20	10,863.79	7,814.67	11,346.32	818.11	161,476.18
Manufacturing Materials			4,377.17	15,608.06		14,878.80	23,094.91		25,871.96	1,178.68			85,009.58
Furniture and Fixtures			766.76	4,573.84	1,853.34	915.00	976.00		8,996.98	932.38			19,859.92
Accounts Receivable		5,001.06	788.91	2,558.17		433.12	2,613.04		2,498.25	3,323.95	778.94	736.65	21,367.97
Property			2,748.25						1,678.67				4,426.92
Total Assets	\$20,705.81	\$20,705.81	\$71,403.79	\$44,494.33	\$11,424.37	\$46,126.39	\$51,829.61	\$11,758.15	\$50,030.53	\$14,033.35	\$12,377.05	\$ 2,122.16	\$348,433.04
LIABILITIES:													
Accounts Payable		\$ 41.36	\$20,546.71			\$ 5,896.64	\$ 1,717.16	\$ 72.29	\$ 2,478.00	\$ 8,016.80	\$ 2,535.40		\$41,294.36
Headquarters:													
Balance, beginning of period	\$12,180.28	\$19,363.30	\$62,467.45	\$17,722.17	\$ 8,759.99	\$38,903.27	\$48,169.64	\$12,744.78	\$28,791.14	\$16,190.22	\$ 8,955.24	\$ 1,668.17	\$309,215.65
Cash received from Headquarters, including Agent's own salary	5,440.00	5,903.42	60,589.02	17,521.18	9,043.89	27,801.29	19,656.22	6,190.08	23,321.72	9,653.97	11,116.49	9,158.33	204,898.61
Scriptures received from Headquarters	12,530.84	10,060.36	59.82	67.19	12,179.01			12,112.94	2,205.16	75.52	2,783.51	7,128.13	59,811.48
Cash received from Headquarters for Earthquake purpose			358.26	5,714.29		3,181.26			5,199.39				10,913.68
Restoring Japan Earthquake losses				3,181.26					27,626.24				31,431.70
Surplus—Furniture and Fixtures	845.62	1,174.12		33.05	2,128.36	1,144.31	167.42			99.02	255.16		845.62
Inventory adjustments			4,452.17										5,001.44
Total Credits	\$31,140.36	\$36,501.20	\$127,423.64	\$79,117.14	\$32,111.25	\$66,651.87	\$67,993.28	\$31,047.80	\$88,386.00	\$26,018.73	\$23,110.40	\$17,954.63	\$627,956.32
Cash sent to Headquarters	\$ 907.14					\$ 591.03	\$ 3.19	\$ 351.82	\$ 315.66	\$ 50.00			\$ 1,308.96
Scripture sent to Headquarters								14.02					923.90
Excess of Expense over Income per Exhibit "E"	18,105.72	\$15,826.75	\$76,178.86	\$28,890.84	\$20,643.88	24,913.57	17,877.64	18,996.10	21,724.05	19,952.18	13,268.75	15,823.99	292,202.33
Expenses Japan Earthquake Fund			355.20	5,714.29					18,760.71			8.48	24,830.20
Suspense			532.52										541.00
Inventory adjustments				17.68	43.00		917.52		33.05				93.73
Miscellaneous adjustments													917.52
Total Debits	\$19,012.86	\$15,826.75	\$77,066.58	\$34,622.81	\$20,686.88	\$26,422.12	\$17,880.83	\$19,361.94	\$40,833.47	\$20,002.18	\$13,268.75	\$15,832.47	\$320,817.64
	\$12,127.50	\$20,674.45	\$50,857.08	\$44,494.33	\$11,424.37	\$40,229.75	\$50,112.45	\$11,685.86	\$47,552.53	\$ 6,016.55	\$ 9,841.65	\$ 2,122.16	\$307,138.68
Total Liabilities	\$12,127.50	\$20,705.81	\$71,403.79	\$44,494.33	\$11,424.37	\$46,126.39	\$51,829.61	\$11,758.15	\$50,030.53	\$14,033.35	\$12,377.05	\$ 2,122.16	\$348,433.04

EXHIBIT E—COMBINED INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF FOREIGN AGENCIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926

	Income:	Brazil	Caribbean	China	Japan	La Plata	Arabic Levant	Levant	Mexico	Philippines	Siam	Upper Andes	West Indies	Total
Sales:														
By depositories.....	\$ 2,270.72	\$ 1,541.77	\$22,519.33	\$37,019.48	\$ 1,997.24	\$ 6,633.30	\$ 3,881.69		\$ 1,084.94	\$ 180.66		\$ 346.08	\$77,475.21	
By correspondents.....	10,563.97	4,997.26	13,847.94	2,672.37	1,279.71	1,816.11	1,816.11	\$ 5,169.26	6,103.53		\$ 410.94	1,933.15	48,794.24	
By colporteurs.....	3,333.05	1,411.11	1,091.11	13,076.72	8,172.69	7,613.10	1,822.03	1,904.97	3,618.68	630.29	3,498.11	4,675.51	60,228.28	
Total Sales.....	\$16,170.34	\$11,018.72	\$37,458.38	\$50,096.20	\$72,842.30	\$15,526.11	\$10,519.83	\$10,074.23	\$10,807.15	\$ 1,120.65	\$ 3,909.08	\$ 6,954.74	\$186,497.73	
Gifts:														
From Churches.....	\$ 600.60	\$ 261.87	\$ 226.16	\$ 56.08	\$ 862.80	\$ 871.28	\$ 170.04	\$ 768.75	\$ 54.13	\$ 182.93	\$ 343.04	\$ 867.03	\$ 5,264.71	
From Individuals.....		180.82	220.39	53.56	3,372.18	187.09	69.40	200.54		234.40	54.00	53.80	4,626.18	
Total Gifts.....	\$ 600.60	\$ 442.69	\$ 446.55	\$ 109.64	\$ 4,234.98	\$ 1,058.37	\$ 239.44	\$ 969.29	\$ 54.13	\$ 417.33	\$ 397.04	\$ 920.83	\$ 9,890.89	
Exchanges.....		\$ 14.21	\$ 175.26	\$ 742.31				\$ 49.30	\$ 61.83		\$ 126.91		\$ 1,169.82	
Returns from Scriptures Previously Donated							\$ 621.33			\$ 27.92			649.25	
Losses Recovered.....			49.89			13.50			20.75	144.57			228.71	
Miscellaneous Income.....	\$ 157.83	9.56	341.77	235.92		89.92	\$ 55.86	9.45	12.55	53.94		15.67	1,057.47	
Total Income.....	\$16,920.77	\$11,465.16	\$38,171.85	\$51,181.07	\$77,077.28	\$17,309.23	\$10,815.13	\$11,102.27	\$10,956.41	\$ 1,764.41	\$ 1,748.70	\$ 7,950.57	\$199,493.87	
EXPENSES:														
Cost of Scriptures Sold:														
Inventory beginning of period.....	\$ 4,900.80	\$14,675.51	\$40,351.66	\$19,004.58	\$ 7,710.42	\$19,292.13	\$20,436.48	\$10,941.05	\$ 7,896.46	\$ 9,901.65	\$ 9,527.53	\$ 480.43	\$165,118.70	
Add.....		1,174.12	3,365.58	176.72	2,128.36	127.26	71.08		13.23	111.58	255.16		7,423.09	
Adjusted Inventory.....	\$ 1,900.80	\$15,849.63	\$43,717.24	\$19,181.30	\$ 9,838.78	\$19,419.39	\$20,507.56	\$10,941.05	\$ 7,909.69	\$10,013.23	\$ 9,782.69	\$ 480.43	\$172,541.79	
Received from Headquarters.....	12,530.84	9,785.22	59.82	676.19	12,179.01			11,419.43	2,095.58	78.52	2,572.85	7,312.37	58,709.83	
Received from other Agencies.....						507.80					1,086.13		1,593.93	
Purchases.....	1,353.52	245.14	999.04	478.45	381.79	4,010.51	2,512.97		1,200.15	334.31	1,869.99		13,385.87	
Returned by customers.....	76.00		4.12			64.10			1,743.49			26.40	1,914.11	
Manufactured.....	400.00		31,788.84	42,126.03		12,509.79	7,270.86		9,143.78	2,277.57			105,516.87	
Total.....	\$19,261.16	\$25,879.99	\$76,569.06	\$62,461.97	\$22,399.58	\$36,447.49	\$30,355.49	\$22,360.48	\$22,092.69	\$12,703.63	\$15,311.66	\$ 7,819.20	\$353,662.40	
Deduct:														
Adjustment of inventory.....			\$ 531.10	\$ 161.35	\$ 43.00	\$ 307.60	\$ 150.54	\$ 14.02	\$ 315.66				\$ 662.49	
Scriptures to Headquarters.....				2,077.14		560.00							3,497.92	
Scriptures to other Societies and Agencies.....		\$ 1,086.73	1,055.54			507.80							2,650.07	
Scriptures donated.....	\$ 288.40	105.63	153.49	2,484.17	157.13	1,552.16	117.58	838.82	109.59	\$ 3,736.02	\$ 54.56	\$ 46.35	9,643.90	
Losses in transit or otherwise.....		19.99	78.07	68.12		14.13	122.21		.69	32.29	1.70		337.20	
Inventory end of period.....	5,087.82	13,648.92	37,292.48	16,388.49	9,357.15	18,501.62	19,045.61	11,311.20	10,863.78	7,814.67	11,346.32	818.11	161,476.17	
Total Deductions.....	\$ 5,376.22	\$14,861.27	\$39,110.68	\$21,179.27	\$ 9,557.28	\$20,921.38	\$19,835.66	\$12,286.25	\$11,289.72	\$11,582.98	\$11,402.58	\$ 864.46	\$178,267.75	
Total Cost of Scriptures Sold	\$13,884.94	\$11,018.72	\$37,458.38	\$41,282.70	\$12,842.30	\$15,526.11	\$10,519.83	\$10,074.23	\$10,807.15	\$ 1,120.65	\$ 3,909.08	\$ 6,954.74	\$175,304.65	
Cost Value of Scriptures Donated	288.40	1,299.09	153.49	2,476.67	156.54	1,552.16	117.58	838.82	109.59	3,736.02	54.56	46.35	10,896.92	
Reduction of Cost for Foreign Fields	600.81	19,744.89	1,578.01	1,914.21	3,508.63	5,893.58	693.51	8,377.48	3,801.66	3,918.28	6,331.00	88,344.41	37,658.32	
Salaries	7,699.15	4,953.63	19,397.12	8,193.85	5,732.90	6,217.06	5,585.66	8,073.62	8,377.48	3,801.66	3,918.28	6,331.00	88,344.41	
Traveling	176.28	68.50	1,122.26	245.18	969.71	1,007.98	498.77	569.17	151.44	135.38	551.13	829.86	9,228.94	
Rent and Storage	2,201.25	999.99	6,357.37	2,908.74	1,199.76	1,254.00	811.51	180.00	1,526.65	822.84	715.21	528.00	19,805.32	
Transportation	2,344.82	1,386.57	5,715.73	1,220.48	1,514.57	1,220.48	1,048.86	1,950.02	628.56	245.68	597.55	793.79	17,552.17	
Colporteurs' Wages	5,312.80	4,576.42	11,662.17	9,099.78	11,358.34	10,267.76	3,506.47	4,904.97	3,296.34	7,184.64	3,896.77	5,392.07	70,888.43	
Colporteurs' Expenses	764.02	1,581.55	11,977.88	2,970.05	987.65	1,382.09	465.09	330.00	1,861.92	1,616.57	2,734.81	1,694.04	28,365.67	
Office Printing, Stationery and Letter Postage	507.22	202.95	570.95	799.24	415.90	109.36	77.92	678.51	363.05	204.18	123.14	63.69	4,767.05	
Discounts and Allowances.....	917.25		2,033.52	3,405.81		307.60							6,801.27	
Plates.....			1,971.88	203.70									2,175.58	
Exchange.....			332.42		65.07		37.84	67.20	14.36	1,224.57	13.39		1,754.85	
Losses in Transit and Otherwise.....		19.99	78.07	68.12		14.13		122.21	.69	136.94	1.70		441.85	
Miscellaneous Expense.....	918.36	302.81	3,376.97	1,599.66	564.18	431.63	621.87	1,127.73	5,092.37	1,478.38	281.59	486.39	16,281.94	
Miscellaneous Losses.....			667.61	122.92		101.04	108.40	255.33	83.53				1,338.83	
Total Expenses	\$35,034.49	\$27,311.93	\$114,650.71	\$80,074.91	\$37,721.16	\$42,222.80	\$28,692.77	\$30,098.37	\$32,680.46	\$21,716.59	\$17,717.45	\$23,774.56	\$491,696.20	
Excess of Expense over Income per Exhibit "C"	\$18,105.72	\$15,826.75	\$76,478.86	\$28,890.84	\$20,643.88	\$24,913.57	\$17,877.64	\$18,996.10	\$21,724.05	\$19,952.18	\$13,268.75	\$15,823.99	\$292,202.33	

EXHIBIT F—CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET OF DOMESTIC AGENCIES, AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1926

ASSETS	Home Office	Agency among Colored People of the U. S.	Atlantic	Central	Eastern	National Capital	Northwestern	Pacific	South Atlantic	Southwestern	Western	Total
Cash	\$ 15,234.70	\$ 6,340.32	\$ 3,166.93		\$ 238.63	\$ 705.68			\$ 2,106.51	\$ 615.62	\$ 904.69	\$ 29,313.08
Inventory of Scriptures	281,130.83	8,106.48	19,352.22	\$12,442.38	5,300.67	1,897.22	\$38,700.12	\$29,570.98	13,843.56	33,858.97	15,714.89	459,918.32
Manufacturing Materials	190,484.17											190,484.17
Accounts Receivable	11,400.00		3,292.15	1,471.41	2,144.10	89.50	3,405.58	5,857.68	822.68	2,624.09	2,668.82	33,776.01
Furniture and Fixtures						144.67	1,264.70					1,409.37
Machinery and Equipment	7,966.12											7,966.12
Accrued Manufacturing Expenses	1,850.95											1,850.95
Transportation Refund due from Headquarters		16.78	28.39	62.29		23.20	107.46	113.93	62.56	118.43	89.46	622.50
Total Assets	\$508,066.77	\$14,463.58	\$25,839.69	\$13,976.08	\$ 7,683.40	\$ 2,860.27	\$43,477.86	\$35,542.59	\$16,835.31	\$37,217.11	\$19,377.86	\$725,340.52
LIABILITIES												
Accounts Payable	\$ 55,657.78			\$ 243.04		\$ 5.38	\$ 1,049.09	\$ 1,595.59				\$ 58,550.88
Headquarters:												
Balance, beginning of period	\$439,330.06	\$16,588.80	\$26,066.87	\$18,000.00	\$ 9,487.83	\$ 2,861.03	\$42,297.19	\$35,507.52	\$16,129.95	\$37,225.06	\$21,733.27	\$662,297.85
Cash received from Headquarters, including Agent's own share	436,455.09	21,833.34	18,500.00	11,500.08	8,670.00	2,800.00	18,833.34	14,499.92	14,500.08	15,500.00	14,291.67	580,383.52
Scriptures received from Headquarters	3,076.19	12,980.80	41,973.19	27,279.10	31,713.67	6,234.55	56,661.45	37,957.07	26,645.32	29,652.14	19,476.21	296,649.69
Increase in Scripture inventory	181.38	44.84		141.77	117.60		274.58	9.27	45.51			814.95
Scriptures purchased—Adjustments	7,360.68											7,360.68
Discounts and allowances	16,365.13											16,365.13
Sundry adjustments	51.75											51.75
Scriptures received from other Agencies						53.44						53.44
Publication Department cash	26,234.70			25.80			46.25					26,234.70
Total Credits	\$929,054.98	\$51,447.78	\$85,540.06	\$57,017.02	\$52,998.31	\$11,949.02	\$118,112.81	\$87,973.78	\$57,320.86	\$82,377.20	\$55,501.15	\$1,590,293.00
Cash sent to Headquarters	\$ 3,784.87	\$18,787.62	\$55,742.65	\$27,457.88	\$33,966.53	\$ 5,501.94	\$53,584.48	\$34,325.76	\$24,383.64	\$27,205.90	\$20,182.06	\$304,923.03
Scriptures sent to Headquarters	409,572.26						339.31			60.39		411,476.86
Scriptures donated for Headquarters	12,497.90					8.52		272.91	72.37		355.31	13,379.29
Scriptures transferred to other Agencies							691.00				68.77	691.00
Scriptures to the Blind				16.25			2.00					18.25
Job Work for Headquarters	37,378.73		266.18	122.65	540.63		319.90	271.81		25.80	229.87	74.05
Excess of Expense over Income per Exhibit "C"										257.19		2,008.23
Reduction in Manufacturing inventory	889.44	17,463.07	4,022.31	15,416.84	10,283.17	3,583.67	20,567.43	18,396.91	15,889.62	17,190.26	14,784.39	37,378.73
Reduction in Scripture inventory	12,501.91	691.01	299.66	75.79	66.79							13,797.67
Sundry adjustments	20.88	42.50					168.97	759.39	139.92	362.30	502.89	889.44
Promotion—Agents			54.85							58.25		15,568.63
Total Debits	\$476,645.99	\$86,984.20	\$60,700.37	\$43,283.98	\$45,314.94	\$ 9,094.13	\$75,684.04	\$54,026.78	\$40,485.55	\$45,160.09	\$36,123.29	\$923,503.36
	452,408.99	\$14,463.58	\$25,839.69	13,733.04	\$ 7,683.40	2,854.89	42,428.77	33,947.00	\$16,835.31	\$37,217.11	\$19,377.86	666,789.64
Total Liabilities	\$508,066.77	\$14,463.58	\$25,839.69	\$13,976.08	\$ 7,683.40	\$ 2,860.27	\$43,477.86	\$35,542.59	\$16,835.31	\$37,217.11	\$19,377.86	\$725,340.52

EXHIBIT G—COMBINED INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF DOMESTIC AGENCIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926

	Agency among Colored People											
INCOME	Home Office	of U. S.	Atlantic	Central	Eastern	National Capital	Northwestern	Pacific	South Atlantic	Southwestern	Western	Total
Sales:												
By depositories.....	\$60,947.03	\$ 3,884.96	\$39,226.91	\$18,495.29	\$29,860.61	\$ 6,014.80	\$46,289.22	\$25,614.19	\$13,053.05	\$20,419.45	\$16,055.90	\$279,861.41
By correspondents.....				2,512.99	1,209.99			5,347.45		3,879.57		12,950.00
By colporteurs.....		9,753.61	2,345.02	4,629.72	4,338.81	20.06	8,837.55	5,977.83	10,859.10	3,950.79	2,846.83	53,559.32
Total Sales.....	<u>\$60,947.03</u>	<u>\$13,638.57</u>	<u>\$41,571.93</u>	<u>\$25,638.00</u>	<u>\$35,409.41</u>	<u>\$ 6,034.86</u>	<u>\$55,126.77</u>	<u>\$36,939.47</u>	<u>\$23,912.15</u>	<u>\$28,249.81</u>	<u>\$18,902.73</u>	<u>\$346,370.73</u>
Gifts:												
From churches.....		\$ 5,022.99	\$ 2,586.74	\$ 278.02	\$ 37.00		\$ 1,448.59	\$ 47.12	\$ 198.91	\$ 27.67	\$ 24.69	\$ 9,671.73
From auxiliaries and Bible Societies.....			8,813.98	70.00	200.00						4.50	9,088.48
From individuals.....		37.60	5,007.29	251.72	74.55	\$.23	420.69	93.47	10.05	42.46	66.93	6,004.99
Total Gifts.....		<u>\$ 5,060.59</u>	<u>\$16,408.01</u>	<u>\$ 599.74</u>	<u>\$ 311.55</u>	<u>\$.23</u>	<u>\$ 1,869.28</u>	<u>\$ 140.59</u>	<u>\$ 208.96</u>	<u>\$ 70.13</u>	<u>\$ 96.12</u>	<u>\$ 24,765.20</u>
Losses Recovered.....												
Returns from Scriptures Donated.....					\$ 109.94						\$.10	\$.10
Profit and Loss.....											.75	110.69
Miscellaneous Income.....		\$ 83.45	\$ 282.20	\$ 19.85	74.19	\$ 5.94	\$ 61.98	\$ 11.29				11.29
Total Income.....	<u>\$60,947.03</u>	<u>\$18,782.61</u>	<u>\$58,262.14</u>	<u>\$26,257.59</u>	<u>\$35,905.09</u>	<u>\$ 6,041.03</u>	<u>\$57,058.03</u>	<u>\$37,118.30</u>	<u>\$24,121.11</u>	<u>\$28,347.23</u>	<u>\$19,009.20</u>	<u>\$371,849.36</u>
EXPENSES												
Cost of Scriptures Sold:												
Inventory, beginning of period.....	\$291,787.56	\$10,096.12	\$20,224.02	\$13,147.95	\$ 7,705.20	\$ 2,058.17	\$37,769.34	\$30,023.12	\$12,262.65	\$33,736.38	\$16,468.39	\$475,278.90
Add—Adjustments.....	181.38	44.84		141.77	117.78		279.78	9.27	45.51			820.33
Adjusted Inventory.....	<u>\$291,968.94</u>	<u>\$10,140.96</u>	<u>\$20,224.02</u>	<u>\$13,289.72</u>	<u>\$ 7,822.98</u>	<u>\$ 2,058.17</u>	<u>\$38,049.12</u>	<u>\$30,032.39</u>	<u>\$12,308.16</u>	<u>\$33,736.38</u>	<u>\$16,468.39</u>	<u>\$476,099.23</u>
Scriptures received from Headquarters.....	3,079.99	12,980.80	41,856.60	27,068.36	34,713.67	6,209.89	56,604.59	37,757.59	26,569.10	29,621.82	19,412.11	295,874.52
Scriptures received from other Agencies.....				25.80			46.25					72.05
Scriptures returned by customers.....			436.47	63.15	323.71	2.64	728.30	657.74	209.46	643.77		3,065.24
Purchased.....	104,730.17											104,730.17
Job Work.....	74.73											74.73
Manufactured per Exhibit "H".....	320,300.36											320,300.36
Total.....	<u>\$720,154.19</u>	<u>\$23,121.76</u>	<u>\$62,517.09</u>	<u>\$40,447.03</u>	<u>\$42,860.36</u>	<u>\$ 8,270.70</u>	<u>\$95,428.26</u>	<u>\$68,447.72</u>	<u>\$39,086.72</u>	<u>\$64,001.97</u>	<u>\$35,880.50</u>	<u>\$1,200,216.30</u>
Deduct:												
Scriptures to Headquarters.....	\$352,359.34		\$ 285.05	\$ 164.87	\$ 336.20	\$ 3.40	\$ 668.02	\$ 159.91	\$ 72.37	\$ 86.19	\$ 322.09	\$354,457.44
Cost of Scriptures Donated.....	12,365.29	\$ 685.70	717.05	1,925.59	528.93	16.30	379.24	725.66	1,111.72	1,180.51	204.12	19,840.11
Anna Barton Fund—Scriptures Donated.....					121.62							121.62
Scriptures Donated to the Blind.....			266.18	122.65	540.63		319.90	271.81		257.19	229.87	2,008.23
Scriptures to Life Members.....			25.00	31.50	529.25		33.50	20.50	7.00	1.00	3.91	651.66
Scriptures transferred to other Agencies.....	64.67			46.25			2.00					112.92
Losses in transit and otherwise.....					26.58		29.74			6.00		62.32
Inventory adjustments.....	13,287.03	691.01	299.66	75.79	67.07	318.92	168.97	759.39	139.92	362.30	502.89	16,672.95
Inventory end of period.....	281,130.83	8,106.48	19,352.22	12,442.38	5,300.67	1,897.22	38,700.12	29,570.98	13,843.56	33,858.97	15,714.89	459,918.32
Total Deductions.....	<u>\$659,207.16</u>	<u>\$ 9,483.19</u>	<u>\$20,945.16</u>	<u>\$14,809.03</u>	<u>\$ 7,450.95</u>	<u>\$ 2,235.84</u>	<u>\$40,301.49</u>	<u>\$31,508.25</u>	<u>\$15,174.57</u>	<u>\$35,752.16</u>	<u>\$16,977.77</u>	<u>\$853,845.57</u>
Total Cost of Scriptures Sold.....	<u>\$60,947.03</u>	<u>\$13,638.57</u>	<u>\$41,571.93</u>	<u>\$25,638.00</u>	<u>\$35,409.41</u>	<u>\$ 6,034.86</u>	<u>\$55,126.77</u>	<u>\$36,939.47</u>	<u>\$23,912.15</u>	<u>\$28,249.81</u>	<u>\$18,902.73</u>	<u>\$346,370.73</u>
Cost of Scriptures Donated.....		685.70	678.13	1,888.04	513.84	16.04	373.50	688.30	1,046.02	1,173.94	203.49	7,267.00
Cost of Scriptures to Life Members.....			25.00	31.50	546.70	2.00	33.50	20.50	7.00	1.00	3.91	671.11
Traveling.....	12,188.00	10,996.63	6,811.65	2,036.66	1,893.31	10,172.00	8,479.90	5,648.08	6,526.85	5,681.24	70,434.32	70,434.32
Freight and Storage.....	1,096.32	266.60	65.74		116.27	30.47	705.54	440.00	273.72	425.00		3,419.66
Transportation.....	1,506.50	1,318.02	360.00	600.00	600.00	2,612.00	1,370.00	986.89	780.00	1,200.00	11,333.41	11,333.41
Colporteurs' Wages.....	497.55	470.43	504.41	275.38	18.17	697.28	564.43	314.51	178.07	443.77		3,964.00
Colporteurs' Expenses.....	4,494.30	2,655.87	4,093.74	3,613.12	47.66	4,319.12	2,010.98	4,068.27	2,839.98	5,632.96		33,776.00
Office Printing, Stationery and Postage.....	558.26	437.84	427.18	489.01	41.54	53.65	828.30	300.41	316.20	103.85		3,556.24
Accounts.....	219.30	463.03	139.12	301.77	77.57	404.12	381.64	508.20	343.13	224.27		3,062.15
Advances.....	680.69	2,776.07	863.58	1,597.51	458.02	2,618.47	2,175.62	1,118.33	2,857.04	455.66		15,600.99
Losses in Transit and Otherwise.....		37.12	31.76	156.29	27.60	312.14	196.93			26.17		760.41
Miscellaneous Losses.....			9.10		27.53	173.68	64.39	73.99		32.06		124.05
Miscellaneous Expenses.....		680.49	578.68	819.71	593.44	145.58	808.05	1,079.61	1,660.87	1,878.85	458.48	403.20
Total Expenses.....	<u>\$60,947.03</u>	<u>\$36,245.68</u>	<u>\$62,284.45</u>	<u>\$41,674.43</u>	<u>\$46,188.26</u>	<u>\$ 9,624.70</u>	<u>\$77,625.46</u>	<u>\$55,515.21</u>	<u>\$40,010.73</u>	<u>\$45,537.49</u>	<u>\$33,793.59</u>	<u>\$509,447.03</u>
Surplus of Expenses over Income per Exhibit "C".....		<u>\$17,463.07</u>	<u>\$ 4,022.31</u>	<u>\$15,416.84</u>	<u>\$10,283.17</u>	<u>\$ 3,583.67</u>	<u>\$20,567.43</u>	<u>\$18,396.91</u>	<u>\$15,889.62</u>	<u>\$17,190.26</u>	<u>\$14,784.39</u>	<u>\$137,597.67</u>

EXHIBIT F—CONSOLIDATED BALANCE

	Home Office	Accounting & Finance Division at the U. S.	Managerial Division	General
	\$ 25,294.70	\$ 7,540.32	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 12,142.38
	281,180.83	8,100.00	1,000.00	1,170.41
	190,484.17			
	11,400.00			
	7,966.12			
	1,850.95			
		16.78		
	\$508,066.77	\$14,463.58	\$25,150.00	\$13,753.04
	\$ 55,757.78			
	\$439,330.06	\$16,588.80		
	436,455.09	21,833.34		
	3,076.19	12,980.80		
	181.38	44.84		
	7,360.68			
	16,365.13			
	51.75			
	26,234.70			
	\$929,054.98	\$51,447.78		
	\$ 3,784.87	\$18,787.62		
	409,572.26			
	12,497.90			
	37,378.73			
	889.44	17,463.07		
	12,501.91	691.01		
	20.88	42.50		
	\$476,645.99	\$36,984.20		
	452,408.99	\$14,463.58		
	\$508,066.77	\$14,463.58		

EXHIBIT H—ANALYSIS OF MANUFACTURING COSTS FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1926

	Paper and Press Work	Binding	Bindery Dept.	Job Work Dept.	Sheet Stock	Materials	Total
Inventory, January 1, 1926	\$100,007.78	\$ 778.23	\$15,745.75	\$ 741.49	\$41,846.69	\$ 7,078.10	\$166,198.04
Purchases	129,146.31	113,990.55	2,930.94	28,276.70	413.47	8,616.14	283,374.11
Inventory adjustments	423.76	894.04					1,317.80
Total	\$229,577.85	\$115,662.82	\$18,676.69	\$29,018.19	\$42,260.16	\$15,694.24	\$450,889.95
Deduct:							
Inventory, December 31, 1926	\$128,795.25	\$ 2,027.29	\$14,312.96	\$ 505.63	\$36,769.28	\$ 7,503.64	\$189,914.05
Sale of materials	22.21					5.99	28.20
Materials charged to Expenses						393.25	393.25
Reduction of inventory	7,096.30		289.07	192.54	132.86	3.31	7,714.08
Total Deductions	\$135,913.76	\$ 2,027.29	\$14,602.03	\$ 698.17	\$36,902.14	\$ 7,906.19	\$198,049.58
Prime Cost of Scriptures and Job Work	\$ 93,664.09	\$113,635.53	\$ 4,074.66	\$28,320.02	\$ 5,358.02	\$ 7,788.05	\$252,840.37
Publication Department							
Depository Department							\$ 33,015.68
Job Work Department							41,940.34
							3,177.92
Cost of Scriptures and Job Work							\$330,974.31
Deduct:							
Cost of Job Work to determine cost of Scriptures manufactured							
Less Job Work for Manufacturing De- partment					\$41,114.96		
					806.22		40,308.74
Total Cost of Scriptures Manufac- tured							\$290,665.57
Add: Discount—to obtain list value of Scriptures manufactured							25,518.21
Excess of list value over cost of Scrip- tures manufactured							4,116.58
List value of Scriptures manufactured per Exhibit "G"							\$320,300.36

INCOME FROM TRUST FUNDS, 1926

PERPETUAL TRUSTS, ENDOWMENT

Andrews, Ellen P.....	\$1,291.40	Johnson, Thomas S.....	646.20
Anonymous Gift.....	25.80	Kilpatrick, Jane.....	2.60
Bailey, Joshua A.....	258.06	Kingman, Mary O.....	51.62
Beekman, Gerard.....	517.14	Klein, Solomon.....	103.24
Black, Mary Jane.....	2.60	Leet, Annie L.....	818.51
Bloom, Raymond Curtis.....	12.10	Lyle, John S.....	2,582.80
Brainerd, Clarissa.....	4.50	McKibben, Martha E.....	25.80
Bressler, William.....	12.84	McLaughlin, Margaret.....	10.32
Brown, Mary Ellen.....	124.07	Mackey, James.....	216.77
*Campbell, Alexander.....	1,021.40	Mathson, Rev. & Mrs. Olive F.....	10.32
Chase, John K.....	151.70	Mays, Mrs. M. E.....	12.90
Clark, Jeremiah.....	49.05	Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. John E.....	51.62
Cotting, Charlotte C.....	216.32	Norcross Memorial Fund, John G.....	855.71
Cotting, Julia A.....	51.62	Pritchard, Owen and Elizabeth.....	24.41
Cotting, Mary E.....	49.05	Richardson, Hannah W.....	258.06
Darling, Robert.....	.20	Ritchie, Cecilia.....	25.80
Downes, Mary J.....	25.80	Rogers, Z. and J.....	2,582.80
Depew, Mrs. Earl Vincent, and little daughter, "Claire Howard Depew Trust Fund".....	7.47	Rowe, Caleb T.....	2,261.28
Eagleton, John.....	25.80	Russell, Helen R.....	103.24
Endowment Fund.....	25,807.00	Sage, Russell, The Margaret Olivia Sage Endowment Fund, in mem- ory of her husband.....	25,807.00
Faxon, Theodore S.....	258.06	Sheerer, William.....	1,260.40
Flummerfelt, Mary A. A.....	18.01	Shepard Bible Fund, Fitch.....	5,164.50
French, Bowers.....	25.80	Sitton, Sallie K. and John R.....	202.90
Gilbert, Sarah E.....	258.06	Sneed, Frank Woolford.....	38.95
Gillet, Solomon L.....	237.43	Special Endowment.....	117.10
Graves, Levi.....	232.25	Spotswood, Susan B.....	30.98
Hale, E. J. M.....	1,033.30	Stokes, Sarah A.....	5.16
Hallock Fund.....	10.25	Swan, Frank S.....	51.62
Ham Fund, Thomas H. and Caro- line F.....	1,846.88	Switzer, Eugenia.....	147.25
Hamilton, Ireneus.....	25.80	Thompson, William.....	239.53
Hamilton, Rachel R.....	51.62	Tuttle, G. W.....	51.62
Hamilton, Robert.....	258.06	Vanetta, Peter R.....	103.24
Harmon, Jacob.....	3,203.00	Wallace Fund, Howard and Annie.....	25.80
Harris, Dr. Charles and Eliz. P.....	1,830.92	Waterman, Mary S.....	51.62
Hemenway, George B.....	20.00	Wightman, C. W.....	79.42
Hemstreet, James.....	13.46	Williams, William.....	51.62
Hemstreet, Jane A.....	6.92	Winkley Henry.....	1,033.30
Hughes, Jenkins.....	6.00	Wood, Josiah B.....	15.00
Hunt, Rev. Albert S.....	517.14	Woodard, Rebecca G.....	434.00
Ives, Willard.....	989.65	Woodward, Jonathan.....	426.42
Jackson Memorial Fund, Mary A. (Mrs Stonewall).....	5.36	Wriglesworth, Mary E.....	20.70
Jesup, Morris K.....	1,291.40	Trust Fund Rehabilitation.....	329.22
			\$88,144.44

*Half the income received from securities held by the Society for the Trustees.

TRUST FUNDS—SPECIFIC PURPOSES

Barton Fund, Anna Maria.....	\$ 154.84	"Special Gift".....	5,680.64
Blossom, Lucy Augusta.....	51.62	Speedling, Oscar H.....	51.62
Cox, Cortez F.....	31.87	Stewart, James.....	10.32
Farnham, Rev. Luther.....	98.07	Sturgeon, W. O. and Mrs. M. C.....	35.00
Hayward, Charles N.....	51.62	Sweetman, James T.....	1,291.40
Hood, Master J. M., 3rd, Memorial Fund.....	517.14	"Testament Fund".....	61.95
*Kasey, S. W.....	4,688.69	Thompson, Harriet N., in memory of Lucius D. Thompson.....	40.42
Kenney, Asa W., Fund.....	415.29	Wardell, J. H.....	51.62
Neefus, Mrs. Mary.....	449.79	White, Rebecca.....	341.50
Neefus, Peter I.....	403.13	Wright Memorial Fund.....	31.50
Simpson, Mary Virginia.....	25.80		
			\$14,483.83

*Securities held by the Fidelity and Columbia Trust Co., Louisville, Ky.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE TRUSTS CREATED BY THE BOARD

Salisbury, Mary Jane.....	\$ 12.00
Selinger, Michel.....	129.04
	\$141.04

GENERAL PURPOSE TRUSTS CREATED BY THE BOARD

Earnest, George.....	\$ 20.00	Stokes, Caroline Phelps.....	517.14
Elmendorf, James V.....	412.77		
Engle, Mary.....	134.22		
			\$ 1,084.13

TRUST FUNDS—SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Fisher, Horace.....	\$ 4.70	Ogg, Alex. W.....	43.82
James, Katherine E.....	2.42		
Morey, Robert G.....	4.82		
			\$ 55.76
Total Income, All Trusts.....			
			\$103,909.20

LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS

LEGACIES

Akers, Narcissa D., late of Springfield, Ill.	\$ 2,000.00	McGregor, Mary, late of Gloversville, N. Y.	\$1,000.00
Armstrong, Mary E., late of Windham, N. H.	95.00	Nesta, A., late of Brooklyn, N. Y.	400.00
Borden, Wm. W., late of Chicago, Ill.	187.50	Nicoll, Anna M., late of Delhi, N. Y.	1,000.00
Carroll, Estate of David H., Baltimore, Md.	70.99	Nuttman, Cornelia D., late of Elizabeth, N. J.	801.23
Caston, Robert T., late of Lawrence, Mass.	968.00	Pacific Mutual Insurance Co., Dissolution	31.88
Clark, Nelson, late of Berkeley, Calif.	500.00	Powell, E. M., late of Dallas, Texas	2,000.00
Coulter, Eliza Jane, late of Zanesville, Ohio	100.00	Rogers, Alson, late of Warren, Pa.	1,000.00
Courier, George, late of Springfield, Mass.	500.00	Rollins, Helen Augusta, late of Yonkers, N. Y.	450.00
Craig, Edward S., late of Unity Township, Pa.	90.00	Spaulding, Abby T., late of Clifton Springs, N. Y.	303.04
Cummings, Evelyn, late of Painesville, Ohio	30,780.85	Starr, Ellin M., late of Rockford, Ill.	4,050.50
De Jong, Ellen V., late of Grand Rapids, Mich.	1,000.00	Stryker, Wm. C., late of Somerset Co., N. J.	100.00
Edwards, Amelia D., late of Wayne County, Mich.	500.00	Swayze, Theodore F., late of Washington, D. C.	500.00
Elliott, Isaac Wm., late of Unity, Sask., Canada	3,079.71	Tallman, Harriet C., late of Somerville, Mass.	2,000.00
Ellis, Amaziah, late of Blissfield, Mich.	500.00	Taylor, Hiram, late of Salem, Ohio	853.61
Gray, James H., late of Petersburg, Va.	1,950.00	Triller, John B., late of Galena, Ill.	373.13
Harriot, Mary A., late of New York, N. Y.	66.18	Truax, Rozell A., late of Jamestown, N. J.	540.83
Hoagland, Josiah Q., Readington, N. J.	1,402.93	Trumbull, George B., late of Ithaca, N. Y.	3,860.29
Houston, Churchill, ...	1,083.51	Voorhis, Nicholas A., late of East Orange, N. J.	112.24
Ingraham, Jane A., late of Brooklyn, N. Y.	33,372.52	Walker, Mary C., late of New York, N. Y.	1,500.00
Jones, Thomas E., late of Jennings, Ohio	100.00	Warner, Anna B., late of Phillipstown, N. Y.	.30
Kennedy, John S., late of New York, N. Y.	1,200.00	Williams, Margaret J., late of Columbia, Wis.	100.00
Kilpatrick, Wm., late of Morning Sun, Iowa	50.00	Williams, Wm. D., late of Hartland, Wis.	25.00
Lawson, Victor F., late of Chicago, Ill.	10,000.00	Winslow, Harriet W., late of Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	2,000.00
		\$112,599.24	

TRUST FUNDS PERMANENT

Bloom, Raymond Curtis	\$500.00	Ham, Thomas H., late of Albany, N. Y., to be known as the "Thomas H. Ham and Caroline Fowler Ham Trust Fund"	\$47,356.72
Frank Woolford Sneed Memorial Fund from Mrs. Frank W. Sneed	1,000.00	Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. John E., Fund	1,000.00
From a friend in Broadway Presbyterian Church	100.00	The Howard and Annie Wallace Fund	500.00
From Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Howard, to be known as the "Earl Vincent Depew and Daughter Claire Howard Depew Trust Fund"	50.00		
		\$50,506.72	

TRUST FUND—SPECIFIC PURPOSE

Lizzie Baker Bowman Memorial for sightless children	\$100.00
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TRUST FUNDS SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Robert G. Moley, Gift.....	\$200.00	Alex. W. Ogg Legacy.....	3,425.00
Katherine E. James, Gift.....	100.00	Mabel S. Conant, Gift	100.00
Horace Fisher Legacy.....	93.00		
			<u>\$3,918.00</u>

GIFTS SUBJECT TO LIFE INTEREST

Amount received during the year	\$521,644.23
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GIFTS FROM CHURCHES

Amount received during the year	\$222,541.29
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GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Amount received during the year	\$160,911.74
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GIFTS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE BLIND

Received from Churches	\$ 8,573.30
Received from Individuals	153.82
	<u>\$ 8,727.12</u>

JAPAN EARTHQUAKE FUND

Amount received during the year	\$ 783.04
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RETURNS FROM SCRIPTURES DONATED

American Sunday School Union	\$1,249.44	Kramer, Mrs., for Bibles in Olunyore language, Kenya Colony, Africa	\$48.52
Arabic-Levant Agency, American Bible Society	621.33	Larrison, E. B.	12.50
Beecher, Rev. Geo. A., through Northwestern Agency	25.75	National Capital Agency, American Bible Society	53.44
Board of Foreign Missions, Presbyterian Church	2.14	Neyman, Chaplain C. A.	5.52
Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, U. S.	381.63	Pederson, Russell F.	6.10
Boardman, E. D.	1.24	Rees, E. J.	412.85
Burdon, Rev. C. E.	1.00	Rowden, Rev. W. S.	1.22
Burns, James M.	2.00	Scammon, Frank	.11
Central Agency, American Bible Society	21.00	Shaw, Laura V.	.55
Cunningham, Mrs. H. T.	1.50	Siam Agency, American Bible Society	27.92
Dabb, Edith M.	1.35	Smith, Rev. C. E.	.96
Eastern Agency, American Bible Society	104.94	Swan, Rev. E. S. S.	1.70
Eliasson, Carl	1.00	Vernon, J. F., through Presbyterian Board of Missions, Western Agency, American Bible Society	3.93
Ganado Mission, Arizona	11.70	Williams, Rev. Dr. R. L.	9.51
Hartwig, George H.	5.25	Y. M. C. A., Home Mission Council, Indian Dept., Warm Springs, Oregon	2.57
Johnson, Fred L.	6.00		
Jones, Rev. Vincent	1.00		
			<u>\$3,031.44</u>

AUXILIARY AND COOPERATIVE BIBLE SOCIETIES

With Date of Recognition, Donations and Purchases of Scriptures

For Twelve Months Ending December 31, 1926

 The Post Office address of the President and Corresponding Secretary is ordinarily, though not invariably, identical with that of the Treasurer.

NAMES OF AUXILIARIES and Date of Recognition	Donations 111th Year	Scriptures 111th Year	PRESIDENTS	CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES	TREASURERS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF TREASURER
ALABAMA						
Alabama of Montg'ry. 1852	.....	633 96	Walter D. Shepard	Rev. W. J. Elliott	E. S. McSwain	Montgomery
CALIFORNIA						
California..... 1850	.....	.....	Benj. I. Romaine	Rev. A. Wesley Mell	J. E. White	San Francisco
CONNECTICUT						
Connecticut.....	.....	670 92	Rv. R. H. Potter, D.D.	Rev. S. W. Raymond	Chas. Ed. Prior, Jr.	Hartford
Haddam..... 1822	136 00	.....	C. A. Russell	Rev. E. E. Lewis	Rev. E. E. Lewis	Haddam
Middletown..... 1829	385 00	37	Prof. W. N. Rice	Prof. J. W. Hewitt	E. A. Wilcox	Middletown
Sharon..... 1826	.....	.....	Rev. F. W. Herman	W. H. Mow	Mary Carter	Sharon
DELAWARE						
New Castle Female... 1822	60 00	.....	Julia Nevin	Mrs. P. B. Lightner	Mrs. P. B. Lightner	New Castle
DIST. OF COLUMBIA						
Washington City..... 1828	.....	.....	Andrew Wilson	Rev. Jas. H. Hyatt	.....	Washington
ILLINOIS						
Chicago.....	253 86	.....	L. T. M. Slocum	Rv. J. L. McLaughlin	R. M. Campbell	Chicago
Menard County..... 1840	.....	.....	.....	.....	Chas. C. Frackelton	Petersburg
Randolph County..... 1838	600 00	41 57	D. C. Fullerton	Sarah Stephenson	Mrs. E. G. Wells	Sparta
INDIANA						
Fayette County..... 1828	.....	.....	Calvin Ochiltree	.....	.....	Connersville
IOWA						
Foreston, Welsh..... 1867	.....	.....	Wm. R. Williams	Llewelyn Williams	Mrs. E. H. Jones	Lime Spring
Gomer, Welsh..... 1886	28 35	.....	Rev. W. R. Cox	Clement Jones	W. R. Rowlands	Emerson, R.
Sharon & Linn Grove. 1889	34 61	.....	T. C. Robb	Anna McClurkin	Everett Cummings	Morning Sun
KANSAS						
Emporia & Vic. Welsh. 1866	345 00	.....	Rev. E. S. Roberts	H. G. Davis	W. G. Roberts	Emporia
United B. S., Eastern	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Allen Co..... 1887	30 00	18 77	Mrs. Ida Merrill	Mrs. G. Barton	Mrs. G. Barton	Moran
KENTUCKY						
Covington & Vic..... 1848	35 26	.....	Richard P. Ernst	L. H. Wilson	John A. Johnson	Covington
MAINE						
Maine..... 1816	.....	251 39	Edgar R. Payson	E. T. Garland	Ozman Adams	Portland
MARYLAND						
Maryland..... 1833	.....	.....	J. Henry Baker	Rev. J. H. Hyatt, DD.	H. C. Miller	Baltimore
MASSACHUSETTS						
Massachusetts..... 1816	4,000 00	7,710 27	Hon. R. F. Raymond	Rv. G. H. Spencer, DD	B. Preston Clark	Boston
New Bedford..... 1834	.....	151 67	Rev. Chas. H. Cook	Rev. John M. Front	A. P. Cunningham	New Bedford

NAMES OF AUXILIARIES and Date of Recognition	Donations 111th Year	Scriptures 111th Year	PRESIDENTS	CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES	TREASURERS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF TREASURER
MINNESOTA						
Blue Earth Co., Welsh 1864	71 00	.....	D. C. Price	B. D. Hughes	David E. Bowen	Cambria
First Welsh.....1857	100 00	15 43	Rev. Wm. E. Evans	David E. Evans	Peter Lloyd	Mankato
Judson & Vic., Welsh...1864	185 00	.....	Evan E. Williams	John B. Jones	R. T. Thomas	Lake Crystal
Ottawa, Welsh...1873	63 50	.....	Evan D. Lloyd	D. R. Morgan	David W. Jones	Ottawa
MISSOURI						
St. Louis.....1846	.....	2,908 35	Robert Rankin	James H. Springer	John F. Green	St. Louis
Gasconade County....1857	100 00	.....	.....	John Tappmeyer	E. Engelbrecht	Bay
Mt. Zion.....1885	50 00	.....	Rev. L. P. Knox	Stella Alexander	Stella Alexander	Troy
NEBRASKA						
Wayne Co., Welsh....1893	75 25	.....	E. A. Morris	E. J. Davis	W. H. Rees	Carroll
NEW HAMPSHIRE						
New Hampshire.....1816	.....	537 85	John Calvin Thorne	Edw. A. Dame	Wm L. Stevens	Concord
NEW JERSEY						
Belvidere.....1850	205 00	.....	Dr. F. P. Lefferts	Miss M. B. Brakeley	Miss M. B. Brakeley	Belvidere
Hunterdon County....1918	.....	.....	.....	Rev. Wm. H. Van der Borch	J. S. Cooley	Flemington
Monmouth County....1837	.....	.....	Samuel C. Cowert	Rev. F. T. B. Reynolds	H. Wyckoff Buck	Marlboro
Morris County.....1818	500 00	75 00	Rev. G. McP. Hunter	Hon. C. E. Case	J. F. Runyon	Morristown
Somerset County.....1830	400 00	.....	Rev. Thos. P. Haig	W. S. Van Campen	John G. Gaston	Somerville
Sussex County.....1827	1,200 00	6 73	Ralph Decker	.....	J. W. Carber	Newton
NEW YORK						
Albany County.....1816	.....	39 41	John T. D. Blackburn	Henry Streibert	Edw. M. Boice	Albany
Brooklyn.....1849	200 00	.....	Rev. H. Carson, D. D.	Rv. T. C. R. Horsfield	H. P. Schoenberner	Brooklyn
Buffalo and Erie Co..1847	50 00	4,025 09	Millard S. Burns	Rev. T. H. Orme	C. N. Armstrong	Buffalo
Columbia County....1817	.....	53 93	Rev. W. E. Traver	.....	.....	Hudson
Dutchess Co., Female 1817	300 00	7 73	Mrs. Sam. Deuel	Mrs. M. Carpenter	Ruth Barlow	Wassaic
Freedom, Welsh.....1858	58 80	.....	Thos. O. Williams	T. H. Jones	T. H. Jones	Farmersville Station
Geneva.....1846	.....	21 41	Rev. Fred Drewett	L. L. Van Slyke	A. C. Boyd	Geneva
Ghent.....1906	55 64	.....	Rev. Otto Voight	Condit B. Snyder	M. Estella Shoefelt	Ghent
Granville, Welsh.....1877	50 00	.....	Wm. R. Owens	Ernest Morris	Elwyn Jenkins	Granville
Greene County.....1816	275 00	1 33	Rv. C. G. Hazard, D.D.	G. W. Rockwell	J. D. Ahreth	Catskill
Jefferson County....1817	.....	30 00	W. B. Camp	C. D. Griffith	C. D. Griffith	Watertown
Long Island.....1817	150 00	18 67	Wm G. Miller	H. S. Conklin, Jr	Robert Weeks	Patchogue
New York, Female...1819	.....	.....	Mrs. Theo. Weston	Mrs. N. Chomeley Jones	Miss G. MacMullen	New York
Niagara County.....1830	.....	117 38	E. H. Boynton	Rev. S. M. Robinson	Rev. A. L. Dillenbeck	Lockport
Orange County.....1816	800 00	5 92	Rev. Taber Knox	Rev. J. Scott King	A. B. Hurtin	Middletown
Rome, Welsh.....1855	100 00	26 22	Daniel G. Roberts	Wm. D. Williams	Daniel J. Williams	Rome
Schenectady County..1823	.....	121 32	Jas. A. Goodrich	R. H. Keller	R. H. Keller	Schenectady
Schoharie County....1817	70 22	4 00	W. E. Bassler	Orson Wilsay	C. M. Throop	Schoharie
Sullivan County.....1826	.....	.....	Rev. J. H. Pritchard	H. C. Olmsted	.....	Ferndale
Ulster County.....1816	.....	148 01	Hon. P. Canfield, Jr.	Rev. H. Smith	A. D. Rose	Kingston
Utica and Vic., Welsh 1817	200 00	27 37	Rev. J. V. Jones, D.D.	Thomas H. Jones	.....	Utica
Westchester County..1827	.....	579 84	Howard Whittemore	Rev. Arthur Requa	Wm. O. Remsen	Port Chester
NORTH CAROLINA						
Salem Bible Assoc....1839	.....	126 64	Rev. E. Rondthaler	Rev. J. Ken'th Pfohl	R. A. Spough	Winston-Salem
Tirzah.....1859	200 00	.....	R. C. Rotehford	J. L. Walkup	W. N. Davis	Waxhaw

NAMES OF AUXILIARIES and Date of Recognition	Donations 11th Year	Scriptures 11th Year	PRESIDENTS	CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES	TREASURERS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS OF TREASURER
OHIO						
Cincinnati Young Men's 1834				Rev. Frank Marston D.D.	H. J. Wippert	Cincinnati
Cedarville.....1851	200 00	37 51	W. P. Harriman	G. H. Hartman	W. J. Tarbox	Cedarville
Columbus, Welsh.....1853		32 40	John E. Jones	D. B. Thomas	J. T. Jones	Columbus
Gomer, Welsh.....1850			Mrs. M. W. Jones	Miss M. Watkins	Charles Jones	Gomer
Green County.....1817			F. H. Dean		T. D. Kyle	Xenia
Piqua Female.....1828	350 00	306 50	Mrs. L. DeF. Butterfield	Mrs. Bertha Morrow	Mrs. L. R. Spencer	Piqua
Salem and Van Wert County, Welsh.....1860			J. Mills Richards	J. D. Jones	Henry Uhl	Venedocia
Troy Female.....1857	98 47	102 23	Mrs. W. H. Baker	Mrs. H. A. Cashey	Mrs. Will. Combs	Troy
PENNSYLVANIA						
Pennsylvania.....1840	7,748 36		Rev. H. E. Jacobs D.D.	Rev. Frank P. Parkin D.D.	Harry Hodges	Philadelphia
SOUTH CAROLINA						
Abbeville County.....1823	167 10	108 19	Rev. J. B. Pressly	C. A. Milford	Amos B. Morse	Abbeville
Charleston.....1817	500 00	156 38	Rv. Albert S. Thomas	J. Arthur Johnston	Dunbar Robb	Bx 844 Charleston
Rocky Creek.....1855	50 00	9 32	Rev. W. A. Kennedy	R. R. Steele	R. R. Steele	Blackstock
Union B. S., Fairfield and Richland Counties.....1841	50 30		T. C. Camak	C. H. Leitner	C. H. Leitner	Wallaceville
Waxhaw and Shiloh.....1868	50 00		Rev. W. C. Ewert	W. P. Robinson	N. B. Cousar	Lancaster
York County.....1888	50 00		Rev. T. T. Walsh	J. A. Marion	C. W. McGee	York
TENNESSEE						
Duck River.....1819	50 00		G. W. Moody, M.D.	H. L. Woosley	H. J. Thompson	Shelbyville
Nashville.....1824	200 00	87 75	Rev. J. I. Vance, D.D.	George M. White	George M. White	Nashville
Rock Creek.....	21 02	10 79	S. K. Walker	Miss Olivia Davis	Mrs. Ross Woods	Lewisburg
TEXAS						
Austin.....1850	70 75		Geo. W. Beaver	Mrs. I. H. Sydnor	Sam Sparks	Austin
Houston County.....1852		51 27	A. A. Aldrich	C. W. Jones	John F. Baker	Crockett
VERMONT						
Vermont.....1816			Hon. H. Bond	Rev. G. H. Spencer	Dr. O. G. Stickney	Barre
Fairhaven, Welsh.....1859			John O. Williams	Wm. R. Hughes	John D. Owen	Box 535 F' haven
South Poultney.....1912			Rev. J. W. Morris	Mrs. T. E. Pickering	Evan Price	Poultney, RFD 2
West Pawlet, Welsh.....1890	90 68	19 69	Isaac Lewis	John P. Owens	Wm. E. Parry	West Pawlet
VIRGINIA						
Virginia.....1816			Rev. J. O. Helsabeck	Rev. M. B. Porter	Rev. M. B. Porter	Richmond
WEST VIRGINIA						
Berkeley County.....1866			Lee M. Bender	Guy H. McKee	B. D. Myers	Martinsburg
Jefferson County.....1868	50 00	10 00	Hon. G. M. Beltzhoover	W. P. Licklider	C. Franklin Lyne	Shepherdstown
WISCONSIN						
Columbus, Welsh.....1854			Robt. E. Williams	W. H. Jones	O. R. Jones	Columbus
First Welsh B. S., Vic. of Oshkosh.....1853	55 00		Moses Morgan	O. L. Jones	Geo. Williams	Picketts
Ixonia, Welsh.....1869	45 00		Evan C. Evans	Wm. Samuels	R. Pritchard	Ixonia
Mifflin, Welsh.....1868	25 00		Samuel James	Alvin O. Jones	G. H. Jones	Rewey
Olivet Church, B. S. 1855			Wm. W. Jones	T. A. P. Owens	O. M. Roberts	Cambria
Oshkosh City, Welsh.....1871	146 32		Luther Davies	Rees Edwards	A. D. Jones	Oshkosh
Racine, Welsh.....1849	190 00		Ellis Rees	John D. Jones	R. Howell Jones	Racine
Spring Water, Welsh. 1857	109 10		Wm J. Knight	Owen Williams	W. M. Davies	Wild Rose, R. D. 1
Waukesha, Welsh.....1847			Edward Williams	Emlyn Griffiths	Thomas Davies	Wales

LIFE DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS

Made from January 1, 1926, to December 31, 1926

Directors for Life

BY THE PAYMENT OF ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS OR UPWARD

Arnold, Benjamin Walworth.	Jones, Edward.
Arnold, Mrs. Elizabeth Van Rensselaer.	McRoberts, Harriet Skinner (Mrs. Samuel).
Butterfield, Mrs. Lida.	Nicoll, Andrew J.
Deibert, Rev. W.	Stuart, James Marshall.
Hodge, Miss Carolyn Hilliard.	Stuart, Jessie Coe (Mrs. J. M., Sr.).
Hodge, Edwin Stafford.	Taylor, Sophia S. (Mrs. J. Livingstone).
Hodge, Miss Helen Hurlbut.	Williams, Llewelyn.

BY ACTION OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

Frelinghuysen, Miss C. Lucy.

For the generous gift of an oil painting of her father, the Honorable Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, who was the tenth President of this Society.

Life Members

BY VIRTUE OF A CONTRIBUTION OF FIFTY DOLLARS OR UPWARD

Ackley, Miss Adeline E.	Evans, Mary B. (Mrs. John H.).
Adams, Mrs. Anna L.	Finley, Anna Jane.
Albertson, Miss Mary Louise.	Finley, Margaret Grace.
Allen, S. Rita M. (Mrs. Uriah J.).	Finley, Ralph Wilfred.
Allis, Prof. Oswald T.	Finley, Vera Lucille.
Amerman, Wilfred.	Flato, Winifred W. (Mrs. Edwin F.).
Anderson, Fannie Hall McKinley (Mrs. Robert).	Follansbee, Wm. V.
Arvin, Rev. John Spencer.	Fontain, Bishop W. Alfred, A.M.D.D.
Baer, Mrs. William.	Ford, Margaret (Mrs. Wm.).
Ballard, Rev. J. Hudson, Ph.D.	Francis, George.
Bates, Arthur Rusling.	Frazer, Francis Robert.
Bates, Josephine Rusling.	Frazer, Lucilla Maud.
Beechwood, C. Theodore.	Gambrell, John M.
Belk, Rev. G. W., Jr.	Getty, Mrs. Adda.
Bell, Rev. G. F.	Goodspeed, Mrs. Hadarrah.
Benson, Miss Anna S.	Griffith, Mrs. J. M.
Blair, Robert J.	Hall, Mrs. Elizabeth F.
Blue, Julia Ford (Mrs. John G.).	Harding, Henry J.
Bogert, Miss Antoinette F.	Harding, Robert L.
Bragg, Lettie P.	Harris, Mrs. E. M.
Britt, William Morehead.	Haskell, Emma A. (Mrs. W. B.).
Brooke, Rev. Freeborn D.	Hobart, Augusta E.
Brunner, Rev. Charles Henry.	Holroyd, Rev. Raymond Lee.
Buck, Charles Houston.	Howland, Charlotte.
Camp, Catherine C.	Hoyt, Rev. Charles E.
Chalfant, Miss Isabella C.	Hughes, W. Wesley.
Childs, William.	Hurst, Bishop John, D.D.
Clark, Rev. Edward A., D.D.	Isbister, Mrs. Florence Scheneck.
Coe, M. P. (Mrs. H. J.).	Johnson, Mrs. Eliza A.
Coffin, Walter E.	Jones, Mrs. E. Edwin.
Cole, Rev. Charles Chester.	Kelsey, Clarence H.
Conley, Miss Doris Jean.	Keys, Mrs. Lola.
Cooper, Caroline S. (Mrs. D. M.).	Kilpatrick, Melva M.
Craig, J. Bond.	Kisselburgh, Catherine.
Cramer, Mrs. Mollie Chellis.	Knappen, Miss Margaret Ann.
Culp, Miss Myra Rebekah.	Laird, Rev. Harold S.
Curtis, Rev. Frederick S.	Latham, Rev. A. L.
Curtis, Helen Pierson (Mrs. F. S.).	Lord, Joseph D.
Dabback, Rev. David George.	Lynn, Charles J.
Davies, Jr., Caleb.	Lyons, Rev. Sproles.
Davis, Daniel J.	McDonald, Robert B.
Davis, Elise.	McDougal, Edward D.
Davis, Mrs. Lelia Walkup.	McDougal, Jr. (Mrs. Edward D.).
Dean, Mr. M. A.	McLaury, Lillian (Mrs. G. G.).
Donnelley, Thomas E.	Marsh, Miss Anna Matilda.
Dooley, Loretta (Mrs. Errett).	Marsh, Miss Helen.
Downey, Robert L.	Masterson, Miss Hallie.
Du Buque, Mrs. Lulu B.	Milligan, J. M.
Ehni, George Davis.	Mix, Mrs. Edna S.
Elwinger, Rev. Harry H.	Moore, Julia Tuthill (Mrs. J. H.).
	Motter, Mrs. Wm. Arthur (J. H.).

Nghut, Mrs. Emma P.
 Nickels, G. N.
 O'Neill, Mrs. J. K.
 O'Neill, J. W.
 Orme, Anna L. (Mrs. T. H.).
 Osborne, Rev. M. A.
 Osgood, Robert S.
 Page, Ambrose.
 Paine, Mrs. Esther H.
 Plunkett, James.
 Plunkett, Miss Jennie Doak.
 Price, John E.
 Reed, Albert Merriman.
 Reed, Merriam Munson.
 Reid, Walter.
 Reynolds, Miss Agnes.
 Roberts, David.
 Roberts, Josephine L.
 Russ, Elizabeth C. (Mrs. Charles T.).
 Russell, Charles A.
 Samuel, John E.
 Schmidt, Rev. C. Ralph.
 Skinner, Ida E.
 Smith, Hampton.

Smith, Laura Grant Williams (Mrs. Alfred S.).
 Sollenberger, Mrs. D. D.
 Spencer, Eugene.
 Spencer, Mrs. Lester.
 Stormfels, Mrs. Erdlena.
 Stormfels, George.
 Stormont, Charles H.
 Stormont, Miss Ida Margaret.
 Thompson, William J.
 Trusler, O. B.
 Turner, Samuel R.
 Vaughn, Nellie Bacon Westervelt (Mrs. David R.).
 Vogel, James Bailey.
 Watson, Susan M. (Mrs. J. Henry).
 Whitener, Philip Charles.
 Wilkerson, Robert Lacy.
 Williams, J. Chauncy.
 Williams, Mrs. J. Chauncy.
 Wood, Bishop John W., D.D.
 Worsham, J. M.
 Wylie, Emma.

BY ACTION OF BOARD OF MANAGERS

Allis, Prof. Oswald T.
 Knubel, Rev. Frederick H., D.D.
 Marquis, Rev. John A., D.D.
 Mills, Rev. Charles, D.D.
 Parker, Rev. James, Ph.D.
 Raven, Rev. John H., D.D.

Reed, Rev. Lewis T., D.D.
 Robbins, Dean Howard C., D.D.
 Scherer, Rev. M. G. G., D.D.
 Tipple, Rev. Ezra S., D.D.
 Wilson, Bishop Luther B., D.D., LL.D.

CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Originally Adopted in 1816, and Subsequently Amended

ARTICLE I

THIS Society shall be known by the name of the AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, of which the sole object shall be to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment. The only copies in the English language, to be circulated by the Society, shall be of the version set forth in 1611, and commonly known as the King James Version, whether in its original form as published in the aforesaid year or as revised, the New Testament in 1881 and the Old Testament in 1885, and published in these years under the supervision of the Committee of Revision, or as further revised and edited by the American Committee of Revision and printed under its supervision in 1901.

ARTICLE II

This Society shall add its endeavors to those employed by other Societies, for circulating the Scriptures throughout the United States and their Territories; and shall furnish them with plates, or such other assistance as circumstances may require. This Society shall also, according to its ability, extend its influence to other countries, whether Christian, Mohammedan, or pagan.

ARTICLE III

All Bible Societies shall be allowed to purchase, at cost, from this Society, Bibles for distribution within their own districts; and the officers of all such Bible Societies as shall hereafter agree to place their surplus revenue, after supplying their own districts with the Bible, at the disposal of this Society, shall be entitled to vote in all meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE IV

Each subscriber of five dollars annually to the funds of the Society shall be a Member of the Society, shall have the right to participate in the business of the Annual Meeting and to vote in the election of the Managers of the Society; and shall be entitled to receive such literature and on such terms, as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE V

Each subscriber of fifty dollars at one time to the funds of the Society shall be a Member for Life, and shall have the right to participate in the business of the Annual Meeting, and to vote in the election of the Managers of the Society; and shall be entitled to receive such literature, and on such terms, as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

Each subscriber of one hundred and fifty dollars at one time to the funds of the Society, or each subscriber who shall by one additional pay-

ment increase his original subscription to one hundred and fifty dollars, shall be a Director for Life; but he shall not be such Director when he is in receipt of any salary, emolument, or compensation for services, from the Society; and each Director for Life shall have the right to participate in the business of the Annual Meeting, and to vote in the election of the Managers of the Society; and shall be entitled to receive such literature, and on such terms, as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII

Directors shall be entitled to attend and speak, and if constituted Directors before June 1, 1877, shall be entitled to vote at all meetings of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VIII

A Board of Managers shall be appointed to conduct the business of the Society, consisting of forty-eight laymen, of whom thirty-two shall reside in the city of New York or its vicinity. One-fourth part of the whole number shall go out of office at the expiration of each year, but shall be re-eligible.

Every Minister of the Gospel who is a Member for Life of the Society, if he be not entitled to receive any salary, emolument, or compensation for services, from the Society, shall be entitled to meet and vote with the Board of Managers, and be possessed of the same powers as a Manager himself.

The Managers shall appoint all officers, and call special general meetings, and fill such vacancies as may occur, by death or otherwise, in their own Board.

ARTICLE IX

Each Member of the Society shall be entitled, under the direction of the Board of Managers, to purchase Bibles and Testaments at the Society's prices, which shall be as low as possible.

ARTICLE X

The annual meetings of the Society shall be held at New York or Philadelphia, at the option of the Society, on the second Thursday of May, in each year; when the Managers shall be chosen, the accounts presented, and the proceedings of the foregoing year reported.

ARTICLE XI

The President and Vice-Presidents, for the time being, shall be considered, *ex officio*, members of the Board of Managers. The Treasurer and Secretaries shall, in addition to their other duties, attend meetings of the Board, and of the Committees thereof, to render such aid in imparting information, recording and reading proceedings and minutes, and in preparing reports, as may be required of them.

ARTICLE XII

At the general meetings of the Society, and the meetings of the Managers, the President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President first on the list then present, and in the absence of all the Vice-Presidents, such member as shall be appointed for that purpose, shall preside at the meeting.

ARTICLE XIII

The Managers shall meet on the first Thursday in each month, or oftener, if necessary, at such place in the city of New York as they shall from time to time adjourn to, but when the first Thursday falls on a legal holiday the meeting shall be on the second Thursday.

ARTICLE XIV

The Managers shall have the power of appointing such persons as have rendered essential services to the Society, either Members for Life, or Directors for Life.

ARTICLE XV

The whole minutes of every meeting shall be signed by the Chairman.

ARTICLE XVI

No alteration shall be made in this Constitution, except by the Society at an annual meeting, on the recommendation of the Board of Managers

ARTICLE XVII

The President, or, in his absence, the Vice-President first on the list in the city of New York, *may*, and, on the written request of six members of the Board, *shall* call a special meeting of the Board of Managers, giving three days' notice of such meeting, and of its object.

ARTICLE XVIII

The Board of Managers may admit to the privileges of an Auxiliary, any Society which was organized and had commenced the printing, publication, and issuing of the Sacred Scriptures before the establishment of this Society, with such relaxation of the terms of admission, heretofore prescribed, as the said Board, two-thirds of the members present consenting, may think proper.

CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

CHAP. 68.

AN ACT

P. 41, LAWS OF 1841.

TO INCORPORATE THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, PASSED MARCH 25, 1841.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1.—All such persons as now are, or may hereafter become Members of the American Bible Society, formed in the city of New York in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, shall be and are hereby constituted a body corporate, by the name of "The American Bible Society," for the purpose of publishing and promoting a general circulating of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment.

SECTION 2.—The net income of the said Society, arising from their real estate, shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars annually.

SECTION 3.—This Corporation shall possess the general powers, and be subject to the provisions contained in Title third of Chapter eighteen of the first Part of the Revised Statutes, so far as the same are applicable, and have not been repealed.*

SECTION 4.—This act shall take effect immediately.

SECTION 5.—The Legislature may at any time modify or repeal this act.

The following proceedings were taken by the Society at the next stated annual meeting after the passage of the Act of Incorporation.

An Ordinance to establish a Board of Managers, and for other purposes.

The American Bible Society do ordain as follows:

1st. The business of this Corporation shall be conducted by a Board of Managers, constituted and appointed in like manner as prescribed by the Constitution under which the American Bible Society acted immediately before its incorporation, in relation to the Board of Managers therein mentioned.

2d. The Managers who were members of the said Board at the time of the said incorporation (except those whose time of service had expired), shall continue in office during the terms for which they were respectively elected. And all persons who, at the time of such incorporation, were officers of the said Society, shall continue to hold their respective offices during the pleasure of the said Board.

3d. The Board of Managers shall have power to appoint all officers of the Society, and to allow to such of them as they may think proper a suitable compensation; to purchase and hold such real and personal estate as may be permitted by the Charter; to cause to be made and to use a common seal for the Corporation; and to make By-Laws not inconsistent with the laws of this State; and they shall have such further powers as were given by the said Constitution to the Board of Managers therein men-

* General powers contained in Title third of Chapter eighteen of the first Part of the Revised Statutes and given to "The American Bible Society" by the third section of the Act incorporating that Society:

1st. To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

2d. To sue and be sued, complain or defend, in any court of law or equity.

3d. To make and use a common seal, and alter the same at pleasure.

4th. To hold, purchase, and convey such real and personal estate as the purposes of the Corporation shall require, not exceeding the amount limited in its Charter.

5th. To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Corporation shall require and to allow them a suitable compensation.

6th. To make By-Laws, not inconsistent with any existing law, for the management of its property and the regulation of its affairs.

tioned. Ten members of the Board of Managers shall be a sufficient number to form a Board for the transaction of business, and every decision of a majority of the persons duly assembled as a Board shall be valid.

The Act and Ordinance were severally adopted.

AN ACT

TO ENABLE THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY TO PURCHASE, TAKE, HOLD AND CONVEY OR LEASE CERTAIN REAL ESTATE,

PASSED APRIL 13, 1852.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1.—Power and authority are hereby granted to the American Bible Society to purchase, take, hold, and convey, the ground or real estate in the city of New York, bounded east by the Third Avenue, west by the Fourth Avenue, north by Ninth Street, and south by Stuyvesant Street and Astor Place, together with all the buildings and improvements which may be erected or made thereon; and also, from time to time to lease such parts of the said premises as may not be immediately required for the actual use and occupation of the Society, even although the net annual income of the Society, arising from its real estate, should thereby exceed the amount limited in its Charter.

SECTION 2.—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
Secretary's Office,

I have compared the preceding with an original law on file in this office, and do certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original.

ALBANY, April 14, 1852.

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL,
Deputy Secretary of State.

CHAP. 360.

AN ACT

P. 379, LAWS OF 1872.

TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

PASSED APRIL 24, 1872.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1.—The corporation, The American Bible Society, chartered by the Act of March twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and forty-one (chapter sixty-eight), and mentioned in the act of April thirteenth, eighteen hundred

and fifty-two (chapter two hundred and forty-seven), in addition to its present powers, hereby is authorized to take and

hold real estate by gift, bequest, or devise, provided that said

Society shall alienate the same within three years after the

same shall vest in the Society in possession, and provided that every such bequest or devise shall be subject to the provisions of the Act of April thirteen, eighteen hundred and sixty (chapter three hundred and sixty). But this act shall not apply to any will or testament of any testator who has died before the passage of this Act.

SECTION 2.—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK, } ss.
Office of the Secretary of State

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original law.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the City of Albany, this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

ANSON S. WOOD,
Secretary of State.

CHAP. 105.

AN ACT

TO AMEND CHAPTER THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY OF THE LAWS OF EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY."

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

[Became a law without the approval of the Governor, in accordance with the provisions of Article four, Section nine, of the Constitution, April 5th, 1888.]

Passed, three-fifths being present.

SECTION 1.—Section one of chapter three hundred and sixty of the laws of eighteen hundred and seventy-two, entitled "An Act to amend the Charter of the American Bible Society," is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

SECTION 1.—The corporation, the American Bible Society, chartered by chapter sixty-eight of the laws of eighteen hundred and forty-one, shall be capable of taking, receiving, and holding any personal or real property by gift or grant, bequest or devise; but all such bequests or devises by residents of this State shall be subject to the limitations of chapter three hundred and sixty of the laws of eighteen hundred and sixty, and the said corporation shall also be competent to act as a trustee in respect to any gift or grant, bequest or devise, pertaining to the objects of said corporation, and gifts and grants, bequests and devises of personal or real property may be made directly to said corporation or in trust for any of the purposes comprehended in the general objects of said Society; and such trusts may continue for such time as may be necessary to accomplish the purpose for which they may be created.

SECTION 2.—This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
Office of the Secretary of State, } ss.

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in this office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original law.

Given under my hand and the seal of office of the Secretary of State, at the City of Albany, this fifth day of April, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

FREDERICK COOK,
Secretary of State.

CHAP. 360.

AN ACT RELATING TO WILLS

P. 607

PASSED APRIL 13, 1860.

SECTION 1.—No person having a husband, wife, child, or parent, shall, by his or her last will and testament, devise or bequeath to any benevolent, charitable, literary, scientific, religious, or missionary society, association, or corporation, in trust or otherwise, more than one-half part of his or her estate, after the payment of his or her debts (and such devise or bequest shall be valid to the extent of one-half and no more).

SECTION 2.—All laws and parts of laws inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

BY-LAWS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

As Amended and Adopted in 1919

ARTICLE I.

Constitution.

The several provisions and articles of the Constitution of this Society adopted in the year 1816, and as subsequently amended, are hereby adopted as By-Laws of this Society, and shall continue in force as such; and no alteration shall be made in such provisions and articles, nor any By-Law be passed by this Society, or the Board of Managers thereof, repealing, altering, or impairing the force or effect of any provision or article thereof, except by this Society at an annual meeting on the recommendation of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE II.

Officers.

The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretaries, who shall be elected by the Board of Managers, and hold their offices respectively during the pleasure of the Board.

There also may be Honorary Vice-Presidents elected by the Board.

ARTICLE III.

Election of Officers and Managers to fill Vacancies.

All nominations of candidates to fill vacancies in any of the offices of the Society or in the Board of Managers, shall be openly made at a meeting of the Board, and be referred to the Committee of General Reference to consider and report thereon at the next or a subsequent stated meeting of the Board, when the election shall take place by ballot, and be confined to the candidates previously nominated and referred to the Committee.

When a vacancy occurs in the Board of Managers the Committee of General Reference shall report within three months all the names to fill such vacancy referred to it by the Board, with its recommendation thereon.

A Manager residing within one hundred miles of New York City who does not attend a meeting of the Board or of a Committee three times in one year shall be considered to have relinquished his membership in the Board unless he has been excused from attendance by a vote of the Board.

ARTICLE IV.

Of the President.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Board of Managers. He shall preserve order, and decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the Society or Board, as the case may be; and generally, he shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are usually assigned to presiding officers. He shall be *ex officio* a member of all standing committees of the Board. He shall also have authority to join in the execution and proof of instruments in writing requiring the signature of the President.

ARTICLE V.

Of the Vice-Presidents.

In the absence of the President, the Vice-President first on the list then present shall preside at the meetings of the Society and of the Board of Managers, and shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties of President.

ARTICLE VI.

Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall keep an account, in the name of the "American Bible Society," with such Banks or Trust Companies in the City of New York, as the Board of Managers shall designate for that purpose; and there shall be deposited in such Banks or Trust Companies, to the credit of the Society, all money paid to the Treasurer, or which may from time to time come into his hands for, or on account of, the Society. A full and accurate account shall be kept of the receipts and disbursements for the Society; and the Treasurer shall present to the Board of Managers, monthly, a full report of the same.

The Treasurer shall act under the advice and general direction of the Committees on Finance and Publication. He shall have the custody of the Deeds, Leases, Bonds, Contracts, and of all other property of the Society, except invested funds and securities. He shall have the custody of the Corporate Seal of the Society, and shall execute under seal, in the name of the Society, all Deeds, Bonds, Contracts, Releases, or Discharges authorized by the Board of Managers, or the several Committees, or officers having power for that purpose, and may prove the same according to law. He shall receive, and receipt for, all money paid or given to the Society. He shall safely keep all money not on deposit, and shall balance his cash book daily. He shall attend to all the business of the Society not specially committed to others.

The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee on Finance, attend to the collection and settlement of debts and balances due to the Society, and shall conduct the correspondence respecting the same. He shall issue certificates of Life Membership and Life Directorship. He shall make out and furnish to the General Secretaries, for publication in the *Bible Society Record*, a monthly statement of all payments and donations to the Society, with the names of the societies, congregations, churches, and persons, by or through whom such payments or donations were made. He shall furnish for the Annual Report, such tabular or other statements of matters appertaining to his department as may be necessary or proper. All checks drawn by the Treasurer shall be countersigned by one of the Secretaries, after examining and comparing the check with the authority, or warrant, of the Finance Committee, upon which it is drawn. To meet payments that it may be necessary to make before the next meeting of the Finance Committee, the Treasurer shall have authority to draw checks for an amount not exceeding \$1,000 in the aggregate, presenting vouchers for the same to the Committee at its next meeting, and the Secretaries are authorized to countersign such checks without a warrant. He shall examine and recommend to the Committee on Finance for their approval all bills for salaries materials purchased, or other amounts due by the Society.

The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee on Finance conduct all correspondence concerning legacies. He shall receive all legacies, and deliver proper receipts and discharges for the same.

The Treasurer shall, under the direction of the Committee on Publication, have full charge of the Manufacturing Department and Depository, make all purchases of paper and other materials required for the same, subject, however, to the provisions and restrictions contained in the By-Laws. He shall superintend the sale and delivery of books to Auxiliary Societies and other purchasers; and shall forward to the societies or persons for whom they are designed, all grants of books made by the Board of Managers or the Committees on Home and Foreign Agencies, including those for Life Members and Life Directors, and conduct or direct the correspondence respecting the delivery of the same. He shall every month present to the Committee on Publication full accounts and statements respecting the depository, and shall report to the Board of Managers the number and value of books issued during the preceding month. He shall, from time to time, with the advice and consent of the Committee on Publication, recommend to the Board of Managers such alterations and improvements in the machinery as may be deemed expedient.

The Treasurer shall place in the Library a copy of the first edition of every book printed and published by the Society, and a copy of every other edition in which material alterations shall have been made. He shall direct and superintend the issuing of the Annual Report and *Bible Society Record*.

He shall pay all mechanics and employees for labor actually performed in the manufacturing departments of the Society monthly, or oftener when necessary, upon pay rolls duly prepared and certified by the Superintendent of Manufacture, or, in his absence, by any member of the Committee on Publication.

The Treasurer shall have authority to issue Bills of Exchange, countersigned by one of the Secretaries, for funds appropriated by the Board for expenditure in foreign lands, upon receiving the certificate of the Secretary in charge of the foreign correspondence that the conditions of the appropriation have been fulfilled, and that the amount is due; and all such payments he shall report to the Committee on Finance at their next meeting.

The Treasurer shall have charge of the letting of premises in the Bible House, and collecting the rents thereof, under such regulations as now exist, or may from time to time be established by the Board of Managers, or the Committee on Finance.

He shall make, or cause to be made out, all statements and inventories in his department, directed by the By-Laws, or required by the Board of Managers. He shall, under the advice and direction of the Committees on Finance and Publication, employ such clerk or clerks as the business of his office may require.

During the temporary absence or inability of the Treasurer, one of the General Secretaries shall be authorized to perform any of his duties.

The Treasurer shall be an advisory member of all the Standing Committees of the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE VII.

Safe-keeping of Securities.

The Treasurer of the American Bible Society is hereby instructed to deposit in the vaults of a Safe Deposit Company in the City of New York all its Deeds, Bonds, Stocks, and other invested securities or evidences of value other than Deeds, Bonds, Stocks, and other invested securities or evidences of value relating to trusts or endowment funds. These trusts and endowment funds shall be deposited with a Trust Company in the City of New York, designated by the Board of Managers, and such Trust Company may be appointed Assistant Treasurer by the Board of Managers, and hold office during the pleasure of the Board, subject to the direction of the Board, or the Committee on Finance, and to the following rules:

That access to the vaults containing such securities shall only be had by the Treasurer, accompanied by a member of the Finance Committee, or by members of the Auditing Committee of the Board, when necessary in the discharge of their examination and audit. In case of the illness or absence of the Treasurer this duty shall be discharged by one of the General Secretaries and a member of the Committee on Finance.

The opening of such vault shall require two keys, both of which shall be necessary to reach such securities; one key to be kept by the Treasurer, and the other by a member of the Committee on Finance appointed by said Committee for that purpose.

A record shall be made of each visit to the vault, stating, under the signatures of the visitors, the object of the visit and the change made in the contents of the safe. This record shall be submitted to the Finance Committee at its next succeeding meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

Secretaries.

The General Secretaries shall, under the direction of the Board of Managers and of its Committees, conduct the foreign and domestic correspondence of the Society with special reference to the translation, distribution, and circulation of the Holy Scriptures, the holding of public meetings, the raising of funds, the donation of books or funds, and the work of all Agents or other Secretaries employed by the Society. Either of them shall countersign all checks drawn by the Treasurer, having examined and compared the check with the authority, or warrant, upon which it is drawn. During the temporary absence or inability of the Treasurer, one of the General Secretaries shall be authorized to perform any of his duties. Under the direction of the Committee on Ways and Means, they shall adopt and execute systematic plans for visiting the different sections of the country in order to collect information and excite a more earnest, active, and liberal interest in the Bible cause; shall attend meetings, preach sermons, and make addresses as often as time, opportunity, and other paramount duties may permit; and in all ways in their power promote the objects and forward the great work for which the Society was founded. Under the direction of the Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies, they shall conduct the correspondence with the Auxiliary Societies and the Home Agen-

cies, with a view to the increase of their efficiency and usefulness in circulating the Scriptures. They shall edit the *Bible Society Record*, and superintend its publication. They shall prepare and draw up the Annual Report of the Society, and report the same to the Board of Managers for its action. They shall also make to the Board of Managers, at each of its stated meetings, a report of their own acts and proceedings.

The General Secretaries shall be advisory members of all the Standing Committees of the Board of Managers.

The Board of Managers shall appoint a Recording Secretary of the Society, who shall certify its acts and the acts of the Board of Managers, and shall immediately communicate all resolutions of the Society or the Board of Managers imposing any duty or office upon a committee or member of the Board. He shall notify the members of the Board of Managers of the time and place of its meetings. He shall have the same authority to counter-sign checks drawn by the Treasurer as is given in this Article to the General Secretaries. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Managers or by the General Secretaries.

ARTICLE IX.

Copies of Correspondence.

Full copies of all Letters written by Officers or Committees of the Society in connection with its business, with a descriptive Index of the same, shall be made and carefully preserved in files suitable for that purpose. No such Letter shall be allowed to leave the Institution, until a legible copy thereof is made for preservation, and all Letters received by officers of the Society relating to its business shall be systematically arranged and kept, each one of the officers being responsible for the correspondence in his own department. All such correspondence shall be open for inspection, whenever desired, by any Manager of the Society.

ARTICLE X.

Standing Committees.

There shall be elected annually, by ballot, at the first meeting of the Board of Managers after the annual meeting of the Society in May, the following Standing Committees of nine Members each:

A Committee on Versions,

- " Publication,
- " Auxiliaries and Home Agencies,
- " Foreign Agencies,
- " Ways and Means,
- " Finance,

and an Auditing Committee of three Members.

The several chairmen of these Committees shall constitute a Committee of General Reference.

These several Committees shall be notified of the time and places of meeting by the officers who keep the minutes of their proceedings.

ARTICLE XI.

Committee on Versions.

The Committee on Versions shall have charge of all translations of the Bible, published or distributed by the Society; they shall recommend measures for securing new versions or revisions of old versions in foreign languages; shall examine new versions presented for the consideration and adoption of the Society, especially in regard to their catholicity and the fidelity of their translation; and shall recommend such as they approve for the use of the Society. They shall, subject to the express approval of the Board of Managers, prepare, or superintend the preparation of, all authorized accessories of the text in all copies of the Scriptures printed and published by the Society, and to this end they shall be charged with a supervision of the Society's Press.

The Committee shall also have charge of the Library of the Society, shall appoint one of the General Secretaries Librarian, and give him directions as to the arrangement and preservation of the books. They shall be authorized to procure, by exchange or purchase, new books when wanted, provided the outlay shall not exceed three hundred dollars per annum. At the close of each year the Committee shall report to the Board of Managers the condition of the Library.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XII.

Committee on Publication.

The Committee on Publication shall be charged generally with the Publications made by the Society; and shall determine the numbers, quality, and kinds of the editions of books authorized to be published. They shall direct the negotiating and making of all contracts relating to the manufacture of books; and all purchases of paper, and other materials required therein, shall be made under their advice and general direction. They shall recommend to the Board of Managers the procuring or making of electrotype and stereotype plates whenever in their judgment they are needed, and shall procure such as shall be ordered by the Board. They shall have charge of the Printing, Binding, and all other manufacturing and mechanical operations of the Society, and shall employ suitable superintendents, foremen, and mechanics in this department of the Society's business. They shall have oversight and direction of the sale of the Society's publications, and under rules approved by the Board, shall employ such methods as may be practicable for conducting vigorously and wisely this department of the Society's work. The sale of the Society's publications shall be only for cash, with such exceptions as to credit as the Board or the Committee may authorize. They shall certify, and deposit with the Treasurer, all contracts and memorandums of purchases authorized by them; and all bills, accounts, or claims against the Society rendered in pursuance thereof. Full and accurate accounts shall be

kept in the Depository and the several departments of manufacturing, and the Committee shall, from time to time, report to the Board the cost of the various publications upon the basis established by the Board, and recommend the prices at which they shall be sold.

The minutes of the proceedings of this Committee shall be kept and recorded by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XIII.

Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies.

The Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies shall have charge first, of matters directly relating to Auxiliary Societies. They shall recommend for recognition such new Societies as give promise of activity and efficiency; shall examine carefully, from time to time, the roll of Auxiliaries, with the view of dropping from it such as have ceased to do legitimate work; and shall report to the Board for its approval any modifications of the system which they may deem necessary for advancing the interests of the Bible cause. Second, this Committee shall have general oversight of the work of the Home Agencies. They shall nominate to the Board suitable persons for Agency Secretaries with recommendations concerning their compensation and the incidental expenses of their work; they shall also recommend to the Board the establishment of new Agencies when such action seems desirable.

They shall have charge of grants of books and money for distribution and of consignments of books for sale in the United States, except such portions of the same as may be included in the Foreign Agencies of the Society. They shall have power to make donations not exceeding five hundred dollars to one object, and shall recommend other grants for the approval of the Board of Managers.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XIV.

Committee on Foreign Agencies.

The Committee on Foreign Agencies shall have charge of the Foreign Agencies. They shall nominate to the Board suitable persons for Agency Secretaries, with recommendations concerning their compensation and the incidental expenses of their work; and shall have power to appoint colporteurs and temporary agents, Agency Secretaries, or similar representatives for a period not to exceed six months, and to fix the amount of compensation to be allowed them.

They shall have charge of grants of books and money for foreign distribution and of consignments of books for sale abroad. They shall have power to make donations not exceeding five hundred dollars to one object, and shall recommend other grants for the approval of the Board of Managers.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XV.

Committee on Ways and Means.

The Committee on Ways and Means shall have charge of the raising of funds for the Society's use, by personal visitation, by correspondence, by public address, or by such other means as may appear to them advisable.

In co-operation with the Committee on Auxiliaries and Home Agencies and the Committee on Foreign Agencies, they shall prepare the Annual Budget of the Society, to be submitted to the Board of Managers, and shall also recommend such appropriations by the Board as they may deem advisable which are not by the By-Laws assigned to other committees.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XVI.

Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Finance shall have charge of the real estate of the Society, insure the same, and fix the rents thereof. They shall order and superintend the repairs of the buildings, and authorize and direct the purchase of the necessary furniture.

They shall audit all bills, accounts, and claims for money or property, and shall draw warrants on the Treasurer for all payments to be made by the Society. They shall have charge of all debts due to the Society, and of all its claims and demands; shall take or direct the necessary and proper measures for their collection and settlement; and shall have the oversight and charge of the invested funds of the Society as provided for in Article VII. The rents derived from the real estate, after paying the expenses of administration at the Bible House, shall be applied to the general purposes of the Society. This Committee shall have authority to superintend and direct the mode and form of keeping the books and accounts of the Society.

They shall have charge of all matters concerning gifts, legacies, and devises made to the Society by will, and shall direct the necessary measures for the collection and settlement of the same, in conformity with the best interests of the Society, until such property shall be transferred or paid to the Society. They shall not compromise any legacy or bequest, involving a concession of more than \$1,000, without the previous sanction of the Board of Managers.

The minutes of the proceedings of this Committee shall be kept and recorded by the Treasurer.

ARTICLE XVII.

Auditing Committee.

The Auditing Committee shall each year receive the report of the certified public accountants who have audited the Society's books for the preceding year. This report shall be carefully examined, and a report made by the Auditing Committee at the next stated meeting of the Board of Managers, after the completion of the examination.

The Committee may at any time, if it is in their judgment necessary, examine and compare the funds and securities of the Society with the inventory of the same, and also examine and audit the Cash Book of the Society, and report their condition to the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Committee of General Reference.

The Committee of General Reference shall consider and report to the Board upon all matters not belonging to any other Standing Committee upon which their advice may from time to time be requested, either by the Board of Managers, the General Secretaries, or the Treasurer.

At the annual election of the Standing Committees they shall recommend names for the action of the Board.

They shall also consider and report upon nominations, referred to them by the Board, of candidates to fill vacancies in any of the offices of the Society or in the Board of Managers.

One of the General Secretaries shall keep and record the minutes of the proceedings of this Committee.

ARTICLE XIX.

Advisory Council.

There shall be an Advisory Council formed of representatives appointed by the evangelical Christian bodies in the United States whose general organizations endorse the work of the American Bible Society and request or require their churches to contribute to the work of the Society. This Council shall co-operate with the Board of Managers in interesting the churches which they represent, in the work of the Society, and shall advise the Board as to its purposes and plans. It shall be invited to the Annual Meeting of the Society; and shall be called together at the expense of the Society to meet with the Board and its Budget Committee at that period of the year when the budget of the Society shall be under consideration.

ARTICLE XX.

Depository and Salesroom.

All the books printed and published by the Society, and completed ready for circulation, shall be placed in the Depository. Full and accurate accounts shall be kept of all books delivered into the Depository, and taken therefrom, by sale or otherwise, and of all sales made. Such accounts shall be balanced monthly, and the results reported to the Committee on Publication.

There shall be, under the general supervision and direction of the Treasurer and Committee on Publication, a room in which the publications of the Society may be sold at retail for cash only. This room and its business shall be under the immediate charge and management of a clerk, to be appointed by the Committee on Publication. He shall keep accounts of all books and property of the Society received into this room for sale, of all sales made by him, and of all money received therefor, and shall pay over such money daily to the Treasurer, and take his receipt therefor. His cash account shall be balanced weekly. All his accounts shall be balanced monthly, and a copy thereof presented to the Committee on Publication and another to the Committee on Finance.

ARTICLE XXI.

Members, Life Members, Life Directors, and Memorial Members, and Their Privileges.

Members: Each subscriber of \$5.00 shall be a Member of the Society. Of this amount, \$1.00 shall be for a subscription for one year to the *Bible Society Record*, the monthly magazine of the Society. The subscriber, if he so desires, shall receive in connection with the remaining \$4.00 the other current periodicals and pamphlet publications of the Society, including the annual "Story."

Life Members: Each subscriber of \$50.00 at one time to the funds of the Society shall be a Member for life. Of this amount, \$10.00 shall be for a subscription for life to the *Bible Society Record*, the monthly magazine of the Society. The subscriber, if he so desires, shall receive in connection with the remaining \$40.00 the other current periodicals and pamphlet publications of the Society, including the annual "Story."

Life Directors: Each subscriber of \$150.00 at one time to the funds of the Society, or each subscriber who shall by one additional payment increase his original subscription to \$150.00, shall be a Director for life. Of this amount, \$10.00 shall be for a subscription for life to the *Bible Society Record*, the monthly magazine of the Society. The subscriber, if he so desires, shall receive in connection with the remaining \$140.00 the other current periodicals and pamphlet publications of the Society, including the annual "Story."

Memorial Members: Each subscriber of \$100 or more at one time to the funds of the Society shall be entitled to create a membership in memory of friends, to be called a Memorial Membership. The names of Memorial Members shall be preserved in a special roll of the Society, which shall be published or not as the Board of Managers may direct, but such membership shall carry with it no privileges to the donor such as are accorded to Life Members, Life Directors, etc. Certificates similar to those provided for Life Membership and Life Directorship and Honorary Life Membership shall be presented to the subscriber, bearing the name or names of those who are memorialized.

ARTICLE XXII.

Accounts and Books of Accounts.

SECTION 1.—There shall be kept in double entry a full and complete set of books of accounts of all the financial transactions and dealings of this Society. There shall also be kept a Register of Life Members and Directors.

SECTION 2.—The fiscal year of this Society shall commence on the first day of January, and terminate on the last day of December. All the accounts with this Society shall be balanced on the last day of December in each year, and a balance sheet and inventory shall be made, under the joint supervision of the Committees on Finance and Publication, showing the funds, property, and effects belonging to this Society on that day, which balance sheet and inventory shall be referred to the Auditing Committee, who shall examine the same in detail, and report thereon to the Board. All such balance sheets and inventories shall be put on file for future reference.

ARTICLE XXIII.

Contracts.

No contract for any purpose whatever, except for the purchase of materials, exclusive of machinery, used in the current manufacturing business of the Society, which shall involve an expenditure or outlay of money exceeding \$500, shall be made on behalf of the Society, nor shall any purchase of property to be permanently held by the Society, be made, without being first approved by the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XXIV.

Library.

All books not for sale or distribution belonging to the Society, and all manuscripts and other valuable papers, which the Society, Board of Managers, Committees, or Secretaries may deem worthy of preservation, shall be placed and preserved in the Library of the Society, or other suitable place of deposit.

ARTICLE XXV.

Bible Society Record.

There shall be published a monthly paper, to be called the *Bible Society Record*, which shall contain extracts from the domestic and foreign correspondence of the Society, notices of the proceedings of the Board and of the Auxiliaries, the issues for the preceding month, and a full statement of all payments and donations to the Society. A copy of the *Record* shall be sent to such persons and societies as the officers, or members of the Board of Managers, may designate.

ARTICLE XXVI.

Minutes of Proceedings.

SECTION 1.—Full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of the Society, of the Board of Managers, and of the several Standing Committees shall be kept and recorded in books provided for that purpose.

SECTION 2.—The minutes of the proceedings of the Society at its annual and other meetings shall be kept by its Recording Secretary, and these minutes, having been read for correction or approval before adjournment, shall then be recorded, and afterwards signed by the chairman of the meeting.

SECTION 3.—The minutes of the Board of Managers at its stated and other meetings shall be kept by the Recording Secretary of the Society, and after being recorded and attested by his signature, they shall be read at the next meeting of the Board, to the end that any errors therein may be corrected; and when approved they shall be signed by the presiding officer of such meeting.

SECTION 4.—The minutes of each Standing Committee shall be read and approved before adjournment, and duly recorded and attested by the officer

designated in the By-Laws, or specially appointed for that purpose, and shall be read at the next stated meeting of the Board for its action.

ARTICLE XXVII.

Order of Proceedings and Business.

The order of proceedings and business at the stated meetings of the Board of Managers shall be as follows, unless otherwise specially directed by the Board:

- I. Open at 3½ o'clock, or as soon thereafter as a quorum (ten members) is present, by reading a portion of Scripture, to be selected by the presiding officer, and with prayer.
- II. Reading and approving the minutes of the Board of Managers.
- III. Reading the minutes of Standing Committees, and action thereon:
 1. Finance,
 2. Auditing,
 3. Ways and Means,
 4. Versions,
 5. Publication,
 6. Auxiliaries and Home Agencies,
 7. Foreign Agencies,
 8. General Reference.
- IV. Reports and communications from officers of the Society and the Board :
 1. Secretaries,
 2. Treasurer.
- V. Reports from Special Committees.
- VI. Special orders.
- VII. Unfinished business.
- VIII. Miscellaneous business.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

Rules for the Transaction of Business at Meetings of the Board.

1. The presiding officer shall preserve order, keep the speaker to the point under consideration, and appoint Committees not otherwise provided for. He shall not take part in debate, nor propose any new measure, unless he first leave the chair; but he may vote as any other member.
2. A motion having been made, seconded, and stated from the chair, shall be considered in possession of the Board, but may be withdrawn by the mover before any order is taken on it. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the presiding officer or any other member require it; and when the question contains several distinct propositions, any member may have the same divided.
3. A motion to amend shall be considered first in order, and shall be decided before the original motion. A substitute for any pending motion or

amendment may be offered, and shall, if it prevail, supersede the original motion or proposed amendment, and may itself be amended.

4. Every member wishing to speak shall rise and address the chair. No one shall speak more than once on a question until every member evincing a desire to speak shall have had opportunity to do so; and no member shall speak over ten minutes without the permission of the Board.

5. Motions to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and a motion to adjourn shall be considered always in order, and be taken without debate.

6. When a report is presented by a Committee, it shall be considered in possession of the Board, and may be adopted, amended, recommended, laid on the table, or otherwise disposed of, as the Board may judge proper.

7. It is the duty of the chair, and the privilege of any member to call a speaker to order when his remarks are irrelevant to the question, or discourteous; and if it be decided that the speaker is out of order, he shall not proceed without the consent of the Board.

8. When a member rises to a point of order, he shall state the same, and in writing if required, and the chair shall rule thereon, without debate.

9. A call of the ayes and noes shall be ordered on the demand of any five members present.

10. Any decision of the presiding officer shall be subject to an appeal to the Board, and such appeal shall be decided without debate; but the presiding officer may assign his reasons for his decision before the vote on the appeal.

11. When a question has been once put and decided, it shall be in order for any member who voted in the majority to move for the reconsideration thereof; but no motion for reconsideration shall be taken more than once at the same meeting.

12. Every member of the Board may have his vote recorded on any question.

ARTICLE XXIX.

Amendment of the By-Laws.

The first Article of the present By-Laws shall not be repealed, altered, or amended, except in the mode prescribed in and by the Article itself; nor shall the Board of Managers make, alter, or amend any other By-Law, except at a stated monthly meeting thereof, nor at the same meeting at which such By-Law, alteration, or amendment is proposed.

ARTICLE XXX.

Declaratory and Repealing Act.

The foregoing are declared to be the By-Laws of the Board of Managers; and all By-Laws and Regulations heretofore passed or adopted by the Board and inconsistent with the preceding By-Laws are hereby repealed.

NOTICE TO AUXILIARIES

The officers of Auxiliary Societies are requested to forward their annual reports to the Parent Society promptly. Blank forms will be furnished for this purpose on application.

Whenever a new Society is organized, notice of the event should be given *immediately* to the Parent Society, so that it may be recognized. The names of its officers and their post-office addresses should also be given.

No Society can be considered as having become auxiliary until it shall have officially communicated to the Parent Society that its sole object is to *promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment; and that it will place its surplus revenue, after supplying its own district with the Scriptures, at the disposal of the American Bible Society, as long as it shall remain thus connected with it.*

CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

Letters relating to the general work of the Society in the United States or foreign lands, and requests for grants of books and communications for the *Bible Society Record*, should be addressed to "The Secretaries of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

Letters transmitting funds, and those relating to accounts, fiscal reports, Life Memberships, and Legacies, also orders for Bibles and Testaments, the *Bible Society Record*, etc., and letters in reference to the transmission of the same, should be addressed to "The Treasurer of the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York."

The Board of Managers beg leave to state that it is necessary that orders for books should be accompanied WITH PAYMENT, it being understood that the moneys are usually collected by societies previous to their purchasing books.

FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY

I GIVE and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the sum of _____, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

In case it is desired to give real estate, the above form can be made to read:

I direct my executors to sell [here describe the land], and I give and bequeath to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen, and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, out of the proceeds thereof, the sum of _____, to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AND OF THE SOCIETY

The BOARD OF MANAGERS meet *regularly* at the Bible Society's House, Astor Place, in the city of New York, on the first Thursday of every month, and *oftener*, as business may require, on adjournment, or in special meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Society is held on the second Thursday in May, at the Society's House, in New York.

CONSTITUTION OF AN AUXILIARY BIBLE SOCIETY

ARTICLE 1. This Society shall be called the Bible Society of _____ Auxiliary to the American Bible Society.

ART. 2. The object of the Society shall be to promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures "without note or comment," and in English, those of the version set forth in 1611 and commonly known as the King James Version, whether in its original form as published in the aforesaid year or as revised, the New Testament in 1881 and the Old Testament in 1885, and published in these years under the supervision of the Committee of Revision, or as further revised and edited by the American Committee of Revision and printed under its supervision in 1901.

ART. 3. All persons contributing any sum to its funds shall be members for one year

those contributing one dollar or more shall receive (if called for within twelve months) a common Bible in return; those contributing *fifteen* dollars at *one* time, or *twenty* dollars at *two* payments, shall be members for life.

ART. 4. All funds, not wanted for circulating the Scriptures within the Society's own limits, shall be paid over annually to the Parent Society, to aid distributions among the destitute in other parts of the country and in foreign lands.

ART. 5. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, whose duties shall be such as their respective titles import.

ART. 6. The management of the Society shall be intrusted to an Executive Committee of five (or seven, including the Secretary and Treasurer), which shall appoint its own Chairman, and make its own By-Laws.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of this Committee to meet frequently on adjournment, or on call of the Chairman; to keep a good supply of books on hand; to appoint local distributors; to see that collections, in some way, are made annually in every congregation; and that all funds are forwarded early to the Parent Society, with a statement as to the portion designed for the payment of books, and that as a free donation.

ART. 8. There shall be a general meeting of the Society on _____ of each year, when a full report of their doings shall be presented by the Committee (a copy of which shall be furnished to the Parent Society), and when a new election of Officers and Committee shall take place. Should the Society fail of an annual meeting, the same Officers and Committee shall be continued until an election does occur.

ART. 9. Any Branch Society, or Bible Committee, formed within the bounds of this Auxiliary, by paying over its funds annually, shall receive Bibles and Testaments at cost prices.

ART. 10. No alteration shall be made in this Constitution, except at an annual meeting, and by consent of two-thirds of the members present.

BRANCH SOCIETY

In many parts of the country, counties are divided into separate townships, each of which should it be deemed advisable, can form a small Branch Bible Society, in connection with the County Auxiliary. It can adopt a Constitution like the one above, with such alterations as the difference of circumstances will suggest. The Branch should collect its moneys annually, and pay them over to the County Auxiliary some weeks previous to its anniversary. All needed books can be procured through the Auxiliary, and kept in a convenient depository. Sometimes a single congregation can resolve itself into a Branch Bible Society, or appoint a Bible Committee of *three*, who shall collect and forward money, and receive books through the County Society.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY FROM ITS ORGANIZATION

The Society, since its organization, has had sixteen *Presidents*, as follows:

Hon. Elias Boudinot, LL.D.,	from 1816 to 1821
Hon. John Jay, LL.D.,	" 1821 " 1827
Hon. Richard Varick,	" 1828 " 1831
Hon. John Cotton Smith, LL.D.,	" 1831 " 1845
Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen, LL.D.,	" 1846 " 1862
Hon. Luther Bradish, LL.D.,	" 1862 " 1863
James Lenox, Esq.,	" 1864 " 1871
William H. Allen, LL.D.,	" 1872 " 1880
S. Wells Williams, LL.D.,	" 1881 " 1884
Hon. Frederick T. Frelinghuysen,	" 1884 " 1885
Hon. Enoch L. Fancher, LL.D.,	" 1885 " 1900
Daniel Coit Gilman, LL.D.,	" 1903 " 1908
Theophilus A. Brouwer, Esq.,	" 1909 " 1911
James Wood, Esq.,	" 1911 " 1919
Churchill H. Cutting, Esq.,	" 1919 " 1924
E. Francis Hyde	" 1924 " —

The following have been, at different periods, the *Corresponding Secretaries* of the Society. In 1919 the name was changed to *General Secretaries*:

Rev. John M. Mason, D.D.,	from 1816 to 1820
Rev. John B. Romeyn, D.D.,	" 1816 " 1819
Rev. James Milnor, D.D.,	" 1819 " 1840
Rev. Selah S. Woodhull, D.D.,	" 1820 " 1825
Rev. Thos. McAuley, D.D., LL.D.,	" 1825 " 1839
Rev. Charles G. Sommers, D.D.,	" 1825 " 1833
Rev. Nathan Bangs, D.D.,	" 1827 " 1829
Rev. John C. Brigham, D.D.,	" 1828 " 1862
Rev. Spencer H. Cone, D.D.,	" 1833 " 1836
Rev. Edmund S. Janes, D.D.,	" 1840 " 1844
Rev. Noah Levings, D.D.,	" 1844 " 1849
Rev. S. Irenæus Prime, D.D.,	" 1849 " 1850
Rev. Joseph Holdich, D.D.,	" 1849 " 1878
Rev. Joseph C. Stiles, D.D.,	" 1850 " 1852
Rev. James H. McNeill,	" 1853 " 1861
Rev. William J. R. Taylor, D.D.,	" 1862 " 1870
Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D.D.,	" 1866 " 1871
Rev. Edward W. Gilman, D.D.,	" 1871 " 1900
Rev. Alexander M'Lean, D.D.,	" 1874 " 1898
Rev. Albert S. Hunt, D.D.,	" 1878 " 1898
Rev. John Fox, D.D., LL.D.,	" 1898 " 1918
Rev. William I. Haven, D.D., LL.D.,	" 1898 " —
Rev. Edward P. Ingersoll, D.D.,	" 1901 " 1906
Frank H. Mann,	" 1919 " 1924
Rev. Arthur C. Ryan, D.D.,	" 1925 " 1927

The *Treasurers* of the Society, in their order, have been as follows:

Hon. Richard Varick,	from 1816 to 1820
William W. Woolsey, Esq.,	" 1820 " 1827
John Adams, Esq.,	" 1828 " 1832
Garrett N. Bleecker, Esq.,	" 1832 " 1832
Hubert Van Wagenen, Esq.,	" 1832 " 1836
John Nitchie, Esq.,	" 1836 " 1838
Abraham Keyser, Esq.,	" 1838 " 1840
William Whitlock, Jr., Esq.,	" 1840 " 1875
William Foulke, Esq.,	" 1886 " 1920
Rev. Gilbert Darlington,	" 1920 " —

In the earlier history of the Society the office of *Recording Secretary and Accountant* was held by

John Pintard, LL.D.,		from 1816 to 1832
Robert F. Winslow, Esq.,		" 1832 " 1836

In 1907 the office of *Recording Secretary* was restored. The *Recording Secretaries* of the Society have been as follows:

Rev. Henry Otis Dwight, LL.D.,		from 1907 to 1917
Rev. Lewis Birge Chamberlain, D.D.,		" 1918 " —

From May, 1914, to April, 1916, the Rev. Henry J. Scudder, B.D., was *Acting Recording Secretary*, while Dr. Dwight was engaged in writing the history of the Society.

In April, 1915, the Rev. Lewis Birge Chamberlain, D.D., was elected *Assistant Corresponding Secretary* to aid in the Centennial Celebration, and was continued in the follow-up campaign until December 31, 1917.

From February, 1921, to September, 1925, the Rev. J. L. McLaughlin, D.D., was *Assistant Secretary*, to aid especially in the correspondence with home and foreign fields.

In March, 1927, the position of Associate Secretary was created by the Board, and the Rev. Eric M. North, Ph.D., elected to the office. On May 1st, he entered on the duties, particularly, the supervision of the work of Home Distribution.

In 1818 Mr. Caldwell was appointed the Society's *Agent*.

In 1819 John Nitchie, Esq., was appointed *Agent and Accountant*.

The office of *General Agent and Assistant Treasurer* has been held by

John Nitchie, Esq.,		from 1832 to 1836
Joseph Hyde, Esq.,		" 1836 " 1854

In 1853 the office of *General Agent and Assistant Treasurer* was divided, and the following gentlemen have since acted as *Assistant Treasurers*:

Henry Fisher, Esq.,		from 1853 to 1869
Andrew L. Taylor, Esq.,		" 1869 " 1886
Rev. Gilbert Darlington,		" 1920 " 1920

In 1854 Caleb T. Rowe, Esq., was elected *General Agent*, and continued in that office until his decease in the year 1898. Since that time the office of *General Agent* has been discontinued by a change in the By-Laws, and its duties now devolve mainly upon the *Treasurer*. Those not assigned to the *Treasurer* come under the supervision of the *Secretaries*.

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A SAFE INVESTMENT

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INVESTORS' TROUBLES

Those who depend for life's comforts and necessities upon the interest of invested capital are never quite free from anxiety. A mortgage or a bond can mature, when the money received by the owner must be quickly reinvested; dividends on stock unexpectedly shrink and the diminished resources do not suffice; a safe may not endure the heat of a burning building and the valuable securities within may be reduced to worthless ashes. Many such possibilities worry those who live upon the income from investments.

AN INVESTMENT THAT STANDS

Those who place money in an annuity of the American Bible Society have an investment that does not require a change every few years, of which the income does not shrink, and of which the capital cannot burn up. Money given to the American Bible Society on condition of receiving a fixed annuity for life is kept apart and specially invested throughout the lifetime of the donor. It is as safe as human wisdom can make it.

BESIDES STABLE INCOME A BENEFICENT WORK

Furthermore this sort of conditional gift to the American Bible Society, besides assuring the donor a fixed income, does a most beneficent work after this income is no longer required. It is used, after the donor has passed away, for God's work of spreading the Holy Scriptures among all nations.

Ask for Booklet 147 for details of this investment.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK CITY

